

Foster Land Trust minutes
December 5, 2017

Foster Land Trust (FLT)
Eddy Building
Foster, RI 02825

The meeting got underway at 7:05 p.m.

Those in attendance: Linda Los Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May, Treasurer; Kristen Cole, Secretary; Dennis Therrien, Tom Boyden, and Mike Carpenter. Myra Mercier was excused.

Minutes: The minutes from November passed unanimously.

Public comment: No members of the public in attendance.

Old business: Management plans: There was a general discussion about whether to keep the management plan for the North/South Greenway (including Grass, LaPolla, Sainio, Schneider properties) as one holistic plan or to break LaPolla, Sainio, Schneider into a separate plan, since each of these properties may have specific, distinct uses, maintenance and activities. It was decided to keep one plan, and add specific detail about individual properties as needed. There is a DEM management plan template that FLT can use, and Linda will update the plan based on the template.

New business: No new business to discuss.

Stewardship: Dennis reported that all of the trails at **Spencer, Spencer West, Hayfield and Hopkins** have been cleared from the trees that fell during the recent storm. There was a general discussion about the Ponagansett senior high school students and projects they can take on as part of their forest management program. They can take on wood-cutting projects that are clearly defined (location, which trees, when to cut, etc.) and would need to sign waiver forms. Students would donate the wood to Foster Human Services for households in town. **Spencer and Hayfield** may have good access for these types of projects. This discussion will continue.

Tom reported that a map for **Spencer West** is now available on the town Web site. It includes parking directions and descriptions of the property and trails. Dennis and Tom will name the trails and change the map orientation. The **Hayfield** white-blazed trail is being called the chipmunk trail. Dennis and Tom are working on a map for the **Dunbar** property, and adding a map for **Spencer** to the town Web site. Also, there is an otter at **Spencer** pond, but no beavers seen there or at **Hopkins**.

Linda reported that the GPS device and software is being purchased and will be available soon. She will contact Roy Najecki since he has used the devices and hopefully can assist us in learning how to use them.

Financial: Walter reports that the purchase of the GPS device and the dues for Land Trust Council are being processed.

Liaison report: Dennis reports that the Conservation Commission has not had a quorum in a while, but they have recently gotten a new member and hope to regroup. Nothing new to report from Planning or Housing.

Public relations: Tom has an article to submit for the January Foster Home Journal and will send to everyone for review.

Correspondence: The usual correspondence from the Trust.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole