

FOSTER LAND TRUST MINUTES

May 1, 2018

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

Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm

In attendance: Linda Los Tibbetts, Chair; Myra Mercier, Vice-Chair; Walter May, Treasurer; Dennis Therrien; Tom Boyden; Mike Carpenter. Kristen Cole excused.

Minutes: April 3, 2018 minutes passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Bob Thurber of Jerimoth Forestry outlined need for updated forest management plan(s). He has previously worked on Land Trust land and for Forester Mark Tremblay. Mr. Thurber has machinery that could assist in clean-up, commenting that lots of work remains after the winter/spring storms. He would like to take a closer look toward logging in a month or so after live trees have leafed out. Spencer West has a few large trees along the main access road that need removal.

Dennis Therrien expressed concern re: tracks from timbering, bird habitat, need to minimize damage, and conservative approach. Mr. Thurber said he could use oxen to remove trees with less damage than large machines. Discussion will continue at the June meeting.

New Business:

- **RIDEM Bee Study** – Jim Lawson is in contact with Linda Tibbetts regarding a bee study of mite carriers. The study includes “Swarm Traps” which would allow collection and testing of bees for mite infestation. Swarms would be up about 14 feet high on trees. All traps would be removed at the end of the study. He is interested in installing Swarm Traps on some Land Trust properties.
Motion by Walter May: to participate in the research study; seconded by Myra Mercier. Approved unanimously.

Mr. Lawson also expressed interest in our invitation for bee keepers to keep hives on Land Trust properties. He will be shown suitable areas for keeping bee hives.

Old Business:

- **Final Archery report summary:** Sixteen of 25 reports were received. The Tikkanen/Martins property was the most used. However, on all three properties only a total of 2 does and 1 buck were harvested.
Motion by Tom Boyden to double the number of permits allowed next season as over-population is an on-going issue, consider opening more land, and stress the need for hunters to return reports, even if they did not hunt during the season; seconded by Dennis Therrien. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

Stewardship:

- **Haying** - Walter May will contact Keith Moffat re **haying and insurance certificate**.
- **Thanks to** - **Carol Sholly** for the good job of updating the web site and to **Sue Dillon** for help at the Town Offices.

- Tom Boyden reported on clearing **Hayfield** trails of storm damage. He reiterated the need for better signage on properties for trail access and also for archery hunting access during season.
Motion by: Tom Boyden, seconded by Mike Carpenter, for Tom B. and Dennis Therrien to work on wording for signage and for Walter May to get copies of survey maps for reference. Motion was approved unanimously.

Reports:

- **Quarterly Report:** submitted to and approved by Town Council
- **Grants:** Linda Tibbetts will apply to Audubon Society for a “Crew in Your Community” grant for work on the Spencer trails.

Liaison Reports:

- **Conservation Commission:** The CC is up and running, with officers elected and plans to have an Old Home Days display which will include Land Trust information.
- **Planning Board:** Reported little forward progress on several issues still to be resolved.

Public Relations: Old Home Days, discussion as to what should be displayed. Possibilities include locations, maps, trail info, photos. Linda Tibbetts’ display board made for previous Land Trust presentations could be modified for hanging, rather than setting on a table.

Correspondence: E-mail message received from Ms. Emily Koo of RIDEM regarding North-South trail loops and possibilities of taking trail off road through a combination of Land Trust and Borders Farm properties. Her contact information was distributed to Trustees for use as more ideas are discussed.

Next Meeting Date: June 5, 2018/future agenda items – Forest Management, North-South Trail

Motion to adjourn public session by Mr. May; 2nd by Mr Therrien.
Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

No executive session

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Los Tibbetts, chair
Notes by Myra Mercier