

**Foster Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 21, 2008
Old Town House, Howard Hill Road, 7:00 p.m.**

Approved

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Lucy Minturn, Chair; Scott Ulricksen, Vice Chair; Sisan Smallman, Secretary; Mike Wood; Kathryn Zuromski.

Absent: Chris Iozzi.

C. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of June 16, 2008 were briefly discussed and approved.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Scott. Vote called; all votes in favor; none opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Reports

- **Budget Committee.** Lucy reported the following:
 - No current status report was available from the Treasurer's office.
 - Rain Garden presentation: The FHJ ad was paid, but fewer funds were expended than had been approved, as members absorbed the costs of refreshments.
 - Additional funds are therefore available for OHD. With the agreement of the members, Sisan indicated she will purchase additional books for the raffle.
 - The "Trash Rat" piece in the July FHJ was paid.
- **By-Laws Committee.** Sisan reported the following:
 - The final draft as approved by members at the June meeting was forwarded to Ann-Marie Ignasher for review. Ann-Marie will forward it with her comments to Town Attorney John Bevilacqua.
- **Environmental Inventory.** Kathryn reported the following:
 - She has prepared 3 maps for the OHD display, showing Land Use, Water Resources and Conservation Lands. She'll also have a list of web sites for people interested in various resources.
 - There was discussion of developing an inventory survey instrument. Mike indicated previous surveys by the FCC may be available. The suggestion was made of publishing a survey as a page in the FHJ, a less expensive alternative to a general mailing.

ACTION: Lucy will work on a format for a survey instrument, and will check on costs for publication in the FHJ.

- **Planning Board (Liaison).** Kathryn reported that she had no new information to report. For its last meeting, the Planning Board held a workshop (she was unable to attend).
- **Land Trust (Liaison).** Lucy indicated there is a meeting tomorrow.
- **DPW (Liaison).** Scott has spoken to a Town Council member and the Town Attorney, and apparently there are no new DPW projects in the works.

E. Old Business

- **Sustainable Living Presentation with Libraries.**
 - The Rain Garden presentation will be followed up by determining the feasibility of installing a rain garden at Paine School.

ACTION: Lucy will coordinate with Kris Chin to contact Paine School.

- **End of Fiscal Year Expenditures.**
 - Covered in Budget discussion.
- **"Trash Rat."**
 - Chris was not present to discuss the next installment.

F. New Business

- **Old Home Days Activities.**
 - Discussion centered on developing a coverage schedule for members to staff the display. Mike and Sisan will sort through supplies and display materials in storage in the Town House. Sisan will make signs as needed, and set up display materials. Scott will assist in moving and setting up.
- **Next Project: Composting.**
 - URI Master Composter Sejal Harde is available to provide a free presentation and even detailed training on composting. This information had been e-mailed to Town Hall and forwarded to FCC. All members were interested.

ACTION: Mike and Kathryn will contact Sejal.

ACTION: Lucy will see if Kris Chin would be interested in making this another joint project.

- **Updating Contact Information.**
 - Mike reported a new e-mail address. Scott had earlier provided a corrected cell phone number.

ACTION: Sisan will send out an updated contact list.

- **No August Meeting.** At the suggestion of the Chair, members agreed to cancel the August meeting.

G. Review of Current Incoming Correspondence.

- DEM has requested a site review on Route 102 by the Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Conservation Commission. A date is being scheduled through Town Hall.

Post Meeting: *The site walk has been scheduled for July 30, 2008 at 4. Members who are able to participate should meet at Town Hall at 4:15 p.m.*

H. Future Agenda Items.

- In addition to follow-through of on-going activities, other agenda items may include the following:
 - Web page management.
 - Refocus on Commission goals, participation and commitment.
 - Joint meeting/ project with the Preservation Society.

I. Adjournment.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Sisan. Vote called; all those voting in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sisan Smallman, Secretary

NEXT MEETING:
Foster Conservation Commission
Monday, September 15, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Ben Eddy Building
Foster, RI