

Foster Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21, 2009
Ben Eddy Building, 6 South Killingly Road, 7:00 p.m.

(Approved)

A. Call to Order/ Roll Call.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present (6): Mike Wood, Chair; Scott Ulricksen, Vice Chair; Sisan Smallman, Secretary; Chris Iozzi; Lou Vinagro; Kathryn Zuromski.

Vacant (1)

Note by Chair: Congratulations to Lou, who has been appointed as the Recycling Coordinator for the Town of Foster, supported by a one-year grant through the RIRRC. Lou spoke of plans to ensure that the collector runs ads for various kinds of collection – such as appliances, yard waste, etc.

B. Approval of Minutes.

Minutes from the meeting of August 17, 2009 were briefly discussed and approved.

MOTION: Chris made a motion to approve the minutes of August 17, 2009; motion seconded by Scott. Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; one abstention (Kathryn).

Motion passed.

C. Reports.

- **Environmental Inventory.** Kat was unable to e-mail the Greenspace presentation by Scott Millar, but has a couple of CD's for members to share, including a variety of DEM maps showing resources, water, endangered species, etc. The CD refers to conservation development and other concepts under discussion by Planning. These maps could be coordinated with individual digital plat lot data through the GIS program, which Planning has. Mike requested that Kat discuss these issues with Ann-Marie Ignasher.
- **Planning Board.** Kat has been unable to attend recent meetings, including public meetings on affordable housing and the Route 6 rezoning. Mike and Sisan both attended the last regular meeting for discussion of the Stone Walls proposal.
- **Land Trust Liaison.** Chris reported from the last meeting that a couple of issues of interest have surfaced, including private use of dirt bikes and 4-wheelers on LT property. The Trust is looking at possible penalties, such as fines, as well as possibly designating allowable areas for off-road use; they are investigating options used by other towns. Mike suggested log bumpers to deter motorized vehicles. The LT is also discussing grooming of trails and vandalism. They are developing a Land Trust web page. Kat asked if LT has any kind of system for reviewing potential land, and Chris noted that review of DEM maps could assist in consideration of possible new sites.
- **DPW Liaison.** No new information. Mike will see if he can get together with DPW director now and then to keep up on road projects.

D. Old Business.

- **Foster Stone Wall Preservation and Protection Ordinance.** A joint workshop meeting has been scheduled for October 7, 2009. The proposal was discussed at the last Planning Board meeting. The response was positive, though logistics would need to be worked out regarding enforcement and implementation. Mike and Sisan plan to attend the joint session, and all members are encouraged to contribute.

ACTION: Sisan will e-mail the most recent draft of the proposal to all Commission members.

- **Asian Long-Horned Beetle.** Mike contacted NRICD regarding community education efforts. Kate Sayles, Brian Satterly or Paul Dolan might be available to do a community information presentation, possibly at our regularly scheduled November meeting. Mike will put in a full page ad in the FHJ. Scott suggested including information on other invasive species as well. Lou mentioned that the Providence Journal has a Sunday section on environmental events that might be free.

ACTION: Kat will contact Kate Sayles regarding the presentation, and will investigate possible publicity.

D. New Business

- **Planning for Future Events.** RIRRC might be a resource for an informational meeting on e-waste and other specialized recycling and disposal.
- **No Bin/ No Barrel.** Cranston and Lincoln have joined the move among towns in RI to pass ordinances to link pick-up of trash to a requirement that residents also use the recycling bins. Lou is thinking of proposing a similar ordinance for Foster. Towns with existing ordinances are finding that compliance rates are starting to increase.

E. Correspondence.

- **RIRRC report.** For 2009, Foster has been charged 19,671 extra for trash disposal.

F. Future Agenda Items.

- Kat suggested we promote the official walks in Foster.
- Chris discussed the notion of finding a student artist or using a copy of the Illustrator program to assist in the production of The Trash Rat. Since there is an education budget, Mike suggested that Chris investigate the cost of the computer program. Lou or Kat may also be able to find someone interested in assisting.

G. Adjournment.

MOTION: Sisan made a motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Scott. Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sisan Smallman, Secretary

NEXT MEETINGS:

Joint Meeting: Foster Conservation Commission and Planning Board

October 7, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Ben Eddy Building

Foster, RI

Foster Conservation Commission

October 19, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Ben Eddy Building

Foster, RI