



Foster Conservation Commission

Town of Foster
Benjamin Eddy Building
6 South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 06, 2011

Location: Benjamin Eddy Building
6 South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

A. Call to Order/ Roll Call

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present (4): Chris Iozzi, Chair; Lou Vinagro, Vice Chair; Patrick Eaton; Brendan Mara, Secretary

Excused (0)

Absent (0)

Vacant (3)

Visiting (0)

B. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from April meeting were submitted for review and approval.

MOTION: Lou made a motion to approve the meeting minutes; motion seconded by Patrick.
Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.

Motion passed - unanimous vote.

C. Reports

- **Planning Board Liaison:** Brendan attended a June meeting of the Planning Board; nothing to report.
- **Land Trust Liaison:** Chris was unable to attend the last meeting; nothing to report.
- **Recycling/ DPW Liaison:**
 - Lou reported that the 'No Bin/ No Barrel' policy would likely be implemented in Foster in the near future once logistics were finalized.
 - Lou confirmed that there was a weight limit for weekly household refuse collection in Foster, however, it was rarely enforced.

D. Old Business

- **Municipal Recycling Report:** The FCC reviewed the Monthly Recycling Report and agreed that the monthly totals are on par with 2010, however, still below the target levels. It is anticipated that monthly totals will increase if a 'No Bin/ No Barrel' policy is implemented in Foster.
- **Budget Review:** The FCC reviewed upcoming expenditures with respect to the annual budget.
 - The purchase of worms for and Old Home Days giveaway was approved; Lou will take care of the order, delivery, and storage. Details of the giveaway and promotion will be finalized prior to Old Home Days.
 - A ¼ page ad will be purchased in the July edition of the Foster Home Journal publicizing the Conservation Commission and the plans for Old Home Days. Lou will take care of the layout of the ad and arrange the purchase.



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E. New Business

- **Old Home Days Planning:** The FCC discussed plans for OHD.
 - Staffing for the (3) day event and for the setup/takedown were discussed. All Commissioners will participate in the setup effort on Thursday evening (07/28/2011), Lou will staff the FCC booth on Friday evening (07/29/2011), Patrick and Chris will staff the FCC booth on Saturday (07/30/2011), and Brendan will staff the FCC booth on Sunday (07/31/2011) and break down the booth at the end of the OHD. Lou will move the FCC materials from the Town House to Town Hall on Monday evening (08/01/2011) with others assisting if possible.
 - Final plans for the worm giveaway and other activities will be locked in prior to the start of OHD.
 - An effort will be made by all Commissioners at OHD to identify potential candidates to serve on the FCC and to invite them to the scheduled August meeting.
- **Other Concerns:** No 'other concerns' were raised.
- **Comprehensive Plan Review:** No discussion was held on the Comprehensive Plan during this meeting; the item will be tabled for further discussion at the scheduled August meeting.
- **Pending Legislation – RI State Senate Bill S533 and State House Bill H5554:** The FCC reviewed a letter addressed to the Foster Town Council concerning the aforementioned legislation. The letter highlighted specific items within this legislation which could adversely impact the Town of Foster, including:
 - Restrictions on the maximum allowable lot size for municipalities
 - Revisions to the definition of 'steep slope' to allow development on land previously deemed unsuitable for construction
 - Allowance for construction of various infrastructure on land deemed 'open space'.The letter requested that the Foster Town Council encourage our local legislative delegation to oppose these bills as currently structured.
MOTION: Brendan made a motion to send the letter to the Foster Town Council as submitted; motion seconded by Lou. Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.
Motion passed - unanimous vote.
- **Facebook Page & Community Outreach:** No discussion was held on the Facebook Page and Community Outreach during this meeting; the item will be tabled for further discussion at the scheduled August meeting.

F. Correspondence

- **New Correspondence:** No new correspondence was available at this time; nothing to report.

G. Future Agenda Items

- **Blue Bird / Bat House Planning for 2012:** No discussion was held on the Blue Bird / Bat House planning for 2012; the item was tabled for further discussion at the scheduled August meeting.
- **Earth Day Trash Collection Planning for 2012:** No discussion was held on the Earth Day Trash Collection planning for 2012; the item was tabled for further discussion at the scheduled August meeting.



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- **Joint Projects with Land Trust – Winter Hike & Nature Walks:** No discussion was held on joint projects with the Foster Land Trust; the item was tabled for further discussion at the scheduled August meeting.
- **New Commissioner Training & Recruitment:** The FCC discussed the need to recruit additional qualified candidates for the Commission and agreed to make an effort to identify potential Commissioners during OHD and to invite them to attend the scheduled August meeting.

H. Adjournment

- **MOTION:** Lou made an enthusiastic motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Patrick. Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.
Motion passed - unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Next Meeting - Foster Conservation Commission

Date: Thursday, July 28, 2011

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Foster Town House
6 South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

Respectfully Submitted,

Brendan S. Mara
Secretary