

Foster Land Trust Minutes
May 12, 2009

Foster Land Trust (FLT)
Benjamin Eddy Building
South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall building on Howard Hill Road.

In attendance: Linda Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May; Kristen Cole; John Neale; Myra Mercier. Bill Fortier attended the Executive session only. Chris Iozzi is the new member/liaison with Conservation Commission. He has not yet attended a meeting; K. Cole will contact him to see if he intends to participate.

Minutes: For April approved by unanimous vote.

Election of Officers: J. Neale made a motion to reappoint the current slate to retain their positions; W. May seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Officers are as follows:

- Linda Los Tibbetts, Chairwoman
- Myra Mercier, Vice-Chairwoman
- Walter May, Treasurer
- Kristen Cole, Secretary

Stewardship: Mike Caprarelli, a neighbor of the Tullis-Bockoven property off Walker Road, reports ATV use on that property. Apparently another adjacent property owner gave permission for ATV use on his own property, but the vehicles are straying onto Tullis-Bockoven and causing damage. L. Tibbetts recommends that FLT contact the adjacent owner informally to discuss the situation. W. May will work with Mr. Caprarelli to identify the T-B boundaries and place signage to deter motorized vehicles.

Spencer: L. Tibbetts reported that at the last Town Council meeting, a neighbor complained about trespassers crossing her property to get to the Spencer property. FLT will place signage at the boundaries and monitor the situation. W. May reports that some maintenance work has been completed on the property. Linda recommended that FLT request more maintenance services from GTH Bobcat Services as part of our haying/maintenance agreement. FLT will discuss this further at a future meeting.

Hayfield: W. May has a contact at Nature Conservancy, and will work with him to see about fertilizers and costs. L. Tibbetts received a request from the USDA to place funnel traps on the property, they are looking for evidence of the Asian Longhorned Beetle. The Board agrees this is a good idea.

Hopkins: W. May will contact Trout Unlimited and DEM to arrange a meeting with FLT to discuss implementing the management plan.

Financial & insurance: As a result of the Financial Town Meeting vote, the FLT budget for 2009-2010 was held flat at \$5,175. W. May is looking into possible savings for insurance costs by comparing similar coverages and exploring a discount for membership in the Land Trust Alliance. FLT may be covered to some extent under the Town policy; this is still to be determined and will be discussed as details unfold.

Walter also reported that the Town Council has directed the Town Treasurer to provide FLT with monthly financial statements, which we have not yet received. He will continue to pursue the issue.

Liaison reports: J. Neale reports that the Planning Board continues to plan the Route 6 zoning project. They will meet with their counterparts in Gloucester to discuss issues of common interest in the coming weeks.

Housing Board: No new activity to report.

Correspondence: L. Tibbetts reports that the Rhode Island Land Trust Council will be instituting a membership fee based on an organization's budget.

Public comments: Ron Cervasio asked that FLT consider identifying and purchasing property that the town can use as active recreation; ball fields, etc. It appears that the land on Foster Center Road that was acquired by the Town last year will not adequately meet the need for new fields.

Executive session, pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(5), re: acquisitions. To discuss purchase of parcel in the North Foster Greenway. In this session, the FLT voted to select Scituate Survey Company to conduct the property survey.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2 in the Eddy building.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole