

Foster Conservation Commission
Minutes
Monday, March 19, 2007
Eddy Building – 7:00 pm

Call to Order

Mike Wood called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Roll Call

In attendance were Mike Wood, Judy Helfgott, Ruth Rogers, Scott Ulrickson, George Christie, and Marcia Bowden. Don Manley and Ed Creighton were absent.

Guest: Town Planner, Ann-Marie Ignasher

Correspondence

Mike Wood mentioned Conservation Commission and Land Trust articles which have appeared in the local newspapers: the *Foster Home Journal* and the *Valley Breeze and Observer*.

Mike Wood referred to the 2001 Seedling Sale of the Northern RI Conservation District.

Mike Wood referred to the letter concerning the Major Subdivision on Gene Allen Rd. Marcia Bowden asked Ann-Marie Ignasher what the procedure was for the Commission's input on this matter. Ms. Ignasher replied that the Commission had two weeks to submit a letter with environmental concerns. George Christie expressed the concern that the Commission be proactive, working toward procedures, rather than reactive. He suggested looking at available land, checking such land elements as steep slopes, etc. He further said the Commission could combine this with what is already available. Marcia Bowden mentioned the 'red book' which is at Town Hall which lists property by plat and lot and includes an environmental check-list. Anne-Marie Ignasher suggested a joint meeting with the Land Trust to consolidate information. George Christie volunteered to donate several hours a week to identify and walk lots that are available to subdivisions. Ann-Marie Ignasher stressed the need to categorize parcels, then prioritizing them. She also mentioned linkages for the Greenways Projects. Scott Ulrickson said he would also identify available land parcels and walk them, with special attention to reptiles and amphibians.

Mike Wood appointed Marcia Bowden liaison to the Planning Board.

Old Business

Mike Wood said he hasn't called MaxMan yet, but that he would soon.

George Christie expressed John Rambone's concern that the Town's recycling rates were quite low.

Approval of Minutes

Judy Helfgott moved to approve the minutes of March 12, 2007. George Christie seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Minutes for January 17, 2006 were not approved.

New Business

Discussion of Earth Day volunteers. Earth Day will be observed Saturday, April 21, and Sunday, April 22, with the roadside trash pick up program. Hours are 9am–4pm Saturday, and 10am–2pm Sunday. Residents will pick up the roadsides near their houses and bring the bags to the DPW and put them in bins. Don Manley will be bringing coffee from Dunkin' Donuts. Residents will receive a mass mailing flyer detailing the program. Price for printing the flyers was \$173, postage will be \$126.

Earth Day assignments: Judy Helfgott will contact the schools to see what they are doing, and find out if something is going home to parents. She will also ask the principal about the Girl Scouts who meet in the school

George will contact the 4-H groups and Fostering Arts.

Don Manley has contacted Boy Scout Troop #101. They will clean up the Woody Lowden area.

Mike Wood then called for a motion to dispense with the rest of the agenda to a future meeting due to weather conditions.

Scott Ulrickson asked if the town has a person licensed in soil erosion and sediment control issues. The town does not. Judy Helfgott suggested that Bob Fallon, building and zoning inspector, be given the resources for training.

Mike Wood requested that further agenda be tabled to the next meeting.

Adjournment

Judy Helfgott moved to adjourn the meeting. George Christie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Bowden