

**FOSTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 18, 2008
Benjamin Eddy Building, 7:00 p.m.**

APPROVED

A. Call to Order

Lucy Minturn, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call

- **Members Present:** Lucy Minturn, Chair; Scott Ulricksen, Vice Chair; Chris Iozzi; Mike Wood; Kathryn Zuromski.
- **Additional Participants:** Lynn Ryder, Town Council Representative.
- **Excused:** Sisan Smallman, Secretary.

C. Approval of Minutes

- **Minutes of September 17, 2007 Meeting.** No quorum is (or will be) available among members present at that meeting to approve the minutes. Per information from Town Planner Ann-Marie Ignasher and Town Clerk Tina Freeman, the Commission should forward the minutes of that meeting to Town Hall with a notation to the effect: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. MINUTES NOT APPROVED DUE TO CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP.

MOTION: Chris made a motion to forward the September 17, 2007 meeting minutes to Town Hall "for informational purposes only"; Scott seconded the motion. Vote called. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Minutes of January 28, 2008 Meeting.**

MOTION: Scott Ulricksen made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2008 meeting; motion seconded by Chris Iozzi. Vote called. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

D. Reports.

- **Budget Committee.** The budget report was given by Lucy, followed by discussion. We are waiting for the dollar figure for the Commission from the RIRRC grant that the Town Council is working on.
- **By-Laws/ Mission Statement Committee.** In Sisan's absence, Lucy reported on progress made in revising Commission by-laws. A draft revision prepared by Sisan was distributed, and members were asked to review for the next meeting.
- **Environmental Inventory Committee.** Kathryn reported on the first meeting of the committee and initiation of the environmental inventory.
- **Planning Board Liaison.** Kathryn gave an update, including discussion of the Route 6 rezoning project.

- **Land Trust Liaison.** Lucy indicated that the Land Trust is reviewing proposals for haying of Land Trust properties.

E. Old Business.

- **DPW.** Scott gave an update regarding the DPW ride-along program concerning the plan to pave the dirt section of North Road.
- **RI Tree Council and NRICD.** Lucy and Mike reported on the pending requests for donations from the RI Tree Council and NRICD.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to table the requests from the RI Tree Council and from NRICD; motion seconded by Scott. Vote called. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

F. Correspondence.

- **Land & Water Conservation Summit.** Information was discussed regarding the upcoming day-long summit at URI; early registration is due by 2/22/08. Several members of the Commission are interested in attending.

MOTION: Scott made a motion to have the Conservation Commission pay the registration fee for any member who wishes to attend the Land & Water Conservation Summit; motion seconded by Mike. Vote called. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **RIDEM and the Earth Day Mini-Grant Program.** Correspondence advising of the discontinuation of RIDEM's Earth Day Mini-Grant Program was reviewed. There was a discussion of possible alternatives, including ideas for dividing up roads for clean-up.
- **Additional Correspondence.** Information was reviewed regarding NRRA's Recycling Conference & Expo and the CRMC Newsletter. There was discussion of the recycling program having been passed on to the DPW.

G. New Business

- **Web Presence for Commission.** Lucy discussed the idea of enhancing the web presence for the Conservation Commission. She requested that all members take a look at the web site with a view to developing suggestions.
- **Meeting Together with Planning Board.** There was discussion of coordinating the next Conservation Commission meeting with the date of the Planning Board's meeting for the purpose of hearing a presentation by Rich Blodgett of the Providence Water Supply Board.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to move the next meeting of the Conservation Commission to Wednesday, March 19, 2008; motion seconded by Kathryn. Vote called. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

POST MEETING NOTE: Planner Ann-Marie Ignasher informed Sisan that the Planning Board meeting is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m., with hearings. The joint workshop with the Conservation Commission will therefore start at 8:30 p.m., prior to which the Conservation Commission can address its own agenda.

H. Future Agenda Items.

- Donation Requests from RI Tree Council and NRICD.
- Report on Land & Water Conservation Summit.
- Reports from the Budget, By-Laws and Environmental Inventory Committees.
- Reports from Liaisons to Planning Board and Land Trust.
- Potential development of a web presence for the Commission.
- Additional issues as appropriate.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business requiring Commission attention, Chair Lucy Minturn called for adjournment.

MOTION: Chris made a motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Lucy. Vote called. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Scott Ulricksen, Vice Chair
and Sisan Smallman, Secretary*

NEXT MEETING:

*****Note the meeting will occur in two sessions*****

Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
Foster Center Library

and

Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 8:30 p.m.
Joint Session with Planning Board
Ben Eddy Building, Foster