

**Foster Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2008
Ben Eddy Building, 6 South Killingly Road, Foster, RI**

Approved

A. Call to Order

Chair Lucy Minturn called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. Roll Call

- **Members Present:** Lucy Minturn, Chair; Sisan Smallman, Secretary; Scott Ulricksen; Mike Wood; Kathryn Zuromski (at 7:25).
- **Excused:** Chris Iozzi.

C. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting on May 19, 2008 were discussed, and one minor edit was adopted.

MOTION: Scott made a motion to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Mike; brief discussion followed. Vote called; all votes in favor (except Kathryn, who had not yet arrived); no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

D. Reports

- **Budget Committee.** Lucy reported the following:
 - FY 2008-2009 figures as provided by the Clerk's office were reviewed.
 - Lucy requested reimbursement of \$115 cash outlay to Ian Suttcliffe for Earth Day activities.

MOTION: Sisan made a motion to approve reimbursement of \$115 for Earth Day activities; motion seconded by Kathryn. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

- Additional spending considerations prior to end of FY:
 - Trash Rat in FHJ. Per Lucy, Chris has prepared a contribution.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to approve the required funds for the customary size ad to publish Trash Rat in the July FHJ; motion seconded by Sisan. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

- Co-sponsorship with Libraries of rain garden presentation.

MOTION: Kathryn made a motion to share the cost of ads with the Libraries, up to a cap of approximately \$200; motion seconded by Scott. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to authorize spending up to \$50 for refreshments to be provided by the Commission at the rain garden presentation; motion seconded by Sisan. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

- Foster Old Home Days – Mike indicated in past member would go to Audubon in Greenville to get approximately \$100 worth of books that would be given away at OHD through a free raffle. In addition, Kathryn would like to prepare a tri-fold brochure to give out on the inventory of local resources and to mount several large RIGIS maps of Foster (approximately \$100 in materials and \$150 in printing costs). Mike indicated that 6 or 7 additional recycling bins would be needed for OHD, and the suggestion was made that the OHD Committee be approached about assisting in recycling. Members were in favor of all these ideas.

MOTION: Sisan made a motion to approve expenditures totaling \$350 for Foster Old Home Days for books, materials and printing, as enumerated above; motion seconded by Mike. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Kathryn made a motion that Mike be designated to attend the next meeting of the OHD Committee as a representative of the Conservation Commission with an offer of a cooperative approach to recycling such that the Commission will purchase the requisite receptacles and services of Rambone and request that the Committee provide for proper disposal; Mike seconded the motion. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Contingent on the outcome of the OHD Committee, Kathryn made a motion to approve the requisite contract with Rambone for recycling; motion seconded by Mike. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

- **By-Laws and Mission Committee.** Sisan noted that the changes suggested at the last meeting had been incorporated into the current draft. Additional language changes were discussed and adopted by members, including additions to the Purpose and Mission section, Special Duties, and grammatical modifications.

MOTION: Scott made a motion to adopt the revisions as discussed and to request that Sisan prepare an updated document to forward for review to Town Planner Ann-Marie Ignasher and Attorney John Bevilacqua; motion seconded by Kathryn. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

- **Environmental Inventory Committee.** Kathryn continued the conversation begun during the Budget Committee discussion. She reviewed some of the various RIGIS maps that are available. She discussed the possibility of gathering local features that could be mapped (such as vernal pools, wetlands, and others).
- **Planning Board Liaison.** Kathryn reported that the last meeting involved discussion of affordable housing statutes and conservation development statutes. Possible changes will be forwarded to the Town Council, followed by public hearings.

- **Land Trust Liaison.** Lucy indicated there was no meeting this month.
- **DPW Liaison.** Scott has had no direct contact, but he has surveyed the ongoing paving jobs.

E. Old Business

Lucy suggested that next year we should consider active promotion of the computer recycling event.

F. New Business

- Chris is working on ongoing Trash Rat pieces.
- Lucy will coordinate with Kris Chin on preparation of the rain garden presentation ad.
- Lucy will prepare an Old Home Days ad.

G. Correspondence. Members reviewed current incoming correspondence.

- The monthly RIRRC report is back in the packets. The total Foster rate has significantly decreased.
- Lucy sent a thank you to the materials donor for the bird and bat houses, and is awaiting contact information for Ian Sutcliffe.

H. Future Agenda Items

- OHD preparation.
- OHD committee recycling issue.
- Letter to DPW re recycling.

NOTE: All members agreed to alter the usual meeting schedule to meet on July 14, 2008 (second Monday) in order to have more time to prepare for OHD.

I. Adjournment.

MOTION: Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.; motion seconded by Scott. Vote called; all votes in favor; no abstentions; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sisan Smallman, Secretary

NEXT MEETING:

Foster Conservation Commission
July 14, 2008
NOTE CHANGE TO 2nd MONDAY
7:00 p.m.

Ben Eddy Building
Foster, RI