

**Foster Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 17, 2009  
Ben Eddy Building, 6 South Killingly Road, 7:00 p.m.**

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**A. Call to Order/ Roll Call**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**Present (4):** Mike Wood, Chair; Scott Ulricksen, Vice Chair; Sisan Smallman, Secretary; Chris Iozzi.

**Excused (1):** Kathryn Zuromski.

**Vacant (2)**

**B. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the meeting of January 26, 2009 were briefly discussed and approved.

**MOTION:** Scott made a motion to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Chris. Vote called; all those voting in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**C. Reports**

- **Budget / Quarterly Report.** Current expenditures and budget were discussed. Mike noted that Foster is still above the baseline for recycling, but is already at 71.5% of the yearly cap for total trash. What if trash were only collected if recycling were also put out for collection, or if trash bags were limited in number? Further discussion was held for future meetings.

Mike reported that he attended the Town budget meeting, and had to cut 15% from the FCC budget as part of Town-wide reductions. Part of the 15% was made up by modifying the budgeted grant amount for NRICD.

Mike provided copies of the quarterly report he completed for the Town Council. Members commended him for an excellent report. The need for FCC members has been brought to the Council's attention.

- **By-Laws.** Mike noted that he is scheduled to meet with Ann-Marie Ignasher on March 3 to discuss the draft By-Laws. Sisan noted she will be out of state and will not be able to attend.

- **Environmental Inventory.** No new information available.
- **Planning Board (Liaison).** No new information available.
- **Land Trust (Liaison).** Chris has agreed to act as Liaison.
- **DPW (Liaison).** Scott will continue to act as Liaison.

**D. Old Business**

- **“Trash Rat” Funding / Letter to Town Council.** Letter completed and sent to Council.
- **Letter of Appreciation.** Letter completed and sent to Lucy Minturn.

**E. Correspondence**

All current incoming correspondence was available for review by members.

**F. New Business**

- **Presentation(s) on Composting and Landscape Design.**  
While Kathryn was not present, she did email updates, including confirmation that Sejal Lanterman and Kate Venturini are willing to do presentations on composting and stormwater landscape design, respectively. She recommends that one-hour presentations be scheduled back-to-back in order to maximize attendance, at a suggested rate of \$100 each. FCC members agreed, with an April date recommended to permit sufficient time to advertise.
- **Asian Long-Horned Beetle.** Kathryn’s email included reference to the pending article and picture, which she indicated she would forward to Sisan for placement in the FHJ.
- **Planning for the Bird House/ Bat House Workshop.**  
Mike has scheduled use of Woody Lowden for March 14, and provided copies of the ad placed in the FHJ. Both Mike and Sisan have kits and supplies, and will inventory what is in stock or might be needed. Members committed to be present for the workshop, and to become familiar with the supplies and instructions. Screws, nails, screwdrivers and hammers will be needed.

<p><b>ACTION:</b> Sisan will send out an email detailing supplies passed on from Lucy. Scott will review construction instructions.</p>
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- **Encouraging Preservation of Stone Walls.** Members reviewed the sample Smithfield ordinance, and discussed issues related to minor modifications by individual homeowners, particularly of walls in poor condition already, vs. outright destruction through development and/or public works repairs. Further discussion was continued for future meetings.

**G. Future Agenda Items.**

- Elements of reducing total trash disposal, and increasing recycling and reuse.
- Meeting with Ann-Marie Ignasher.
- Land + Water Summit (March 21, 2009).
- Compost bins.

**H. Adjournment.**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Sisan Smallman, Secretary*

**NEXT MEETING:**

**Foster Conservation Commission  
Monday, March 16, 2009  
7:00 p.m.**

**Ben Eddy Building  
Foster, RI**