



Foster Conservation Commission

Town of Foster
Benjamin Eddy Building
6 South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, March 18, 2013

Location: Foster Town House – Howard Hill Road
Foster, RI 02825

A. Call to Order/ Roll Call

- The Chair proudly called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present (4): Chris Iozzi, Chair, Vice Chair; Brendan Mara, Secretary; Todd Sholly, Joe Cardillo

Excused (1): Lou Vinagro

Absent (0)

Vacant (2)

Visiting (0)

B. Approval of Minutes

- **Minutes:** Minutes from the February 2013 meeting were presented for review and approval.
- **MOTION:** Brendan made a motion to approve the minutes February 2013 as submitted; the motion was seconded by Todd. Vote called; three in favor (Christian Iozzi, Brendan Mara, Todd Sholly); none opposed; one abstentions (Joe Cardillo). **Motion passed.**

C. Reports

- **Planning Board Liaison:** Brendan reported that there was no new information from the Foster Planning Board to report.
- **Land Trust Liaison:**
 - Chris noted that talks are underway to host a joint meeting with the Foster Land Trust at a future date following preliminary discussions with the Land Trust Chairperson at RI Land & Water Conservation Summit post-summit gathering.
- **Recycling/ DPW Liaison:**
 - Chris reported that Municipal Recycling Rates were holding firm.

D. Old Business

- **Quarterly Reports for 2013:** Brendan reported that there were presently no quarterly reports to review & submit – next report to be reviewed at April meeting.
- **Municipal Recycling Report:** The latest reports indicate that recycling rates are still holding steady below the target rates despite the introduction of single stream recycling.
- **Budget Review:**
 - Chris reported that he would review our budget to determine whether we will be paying annual dues to the RI Association of Conservation Commissions.
- **Letter to Town Council – New Conservation Commission Members:** Brendan reported that the Spring letter to the Town Council in conjunction with the outreach efforts of several ambitious Commission members had yielded two new members
- **RI Land & Water Conservation Summit:**



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- Chris and Brendan both reported that the 2013 summit was a positive experience and a worthwhile exercise for the Foster Conservation Commission moving forward.
- Brendan reported on a successful effort in Glocester to form a 'Watershed Watch' to monitor water quality at select ponds/lakes/streams within the town; additional information will be presented at future meetings.
- Brendan reported on a successful effort in Smithfield to have a Joint Review Board inclusive of the Conservation Commission to review all major developments before a full review occurs; additional information will be presented at future meetings.

E. New Business

- **Introduction of New Commission Members:**
 - Joe Cardillo was welcomed to the Foster Conservation Commission and a brief review of the Town Charter mandated responsibilities of this town body ensued.
- **Joint Projects with Outside Groups:**
 - Chris reported that discussions were ongoing to organize a formal session with the Stargazers; additional information will be provided at a future meeting.
 - Chris reiterated that talks are underway to host a joint meeting with the Foster Land Trust at a future date.
- **April Column/Article in Foster Home Journal**
 - Brendan reported that an article had been submitted for inclusion in the April edition of the Foster Home Journal – topics included Earth Day cleanup event, Backyard Habitat workshop, introducing new members, and surveying interest in forming a 'Watershed Watch'.
- **2013 Backyard Habitat Workshop**
 - April 06, 2013 from 11am through 1pm at Woody Lowden
 - Birdhouses Only – Brendan to begin advertising and tracking attendance so that enough kits are available.
- **2013 Earth Day Trash Collection Event**
 - Event to be held on April 27, 2013 – more information to be added at April meeting.
- **2013 Old Home days Planning**
 - Preliminary planning for 2013 Foster Old Home Days will begin at the April meeting.
- **2013 Newsletter**
 - Preliminary planning for 2013 Newsletter will begin at the April meeting.

F. Correspondence

- **New Correspondence:** No new correspondence was presented for discussion at this meeting.

G. Future Agenda Items

- **Comprehensive List of Volunteer Service Projects – Conservation Commission:** Discussion tabled for further consideration at the April meeting.
- **Pending Legislation:** Discussion tabled for further consideration at the April meeting.



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H. New Conservation Commission Projects

- No new Conservation Commission projects were presented; discussion tabled for further consideration at the April meeting.

I. Adjournment

- **MOTION:** Joe passionately put forth a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion halfheartedly seconded by Todd. Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed - unanimous vote.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Next Meeting - Foster Conservation Commission

Date: Monday, April 15, 2013 700PM

Location: Benjamin Eddy Building
6 South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

Respectfully Submitted,

Brendan S. Mara
Secretary