



Foster Conservation Commission

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, April 15, 2013

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

A. Call to Order/ Roll Call

- The Chair belatedly called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Present (5): Chris Iozzi, Chair; Lou Vinagro, Vice Chair; Brendan Mara, Secretary; Todd Sholly;
Joe Cardillo

Excused (0):

Absent (0):

Vacant (2):

Visiting (0):

B. Approval of Minutes

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

C. Reports

- **Planning Board Liaison:** Brendan reported that there was a proposed minor subdivision for review – this subdivision will be reviewed under ‘New Business’.
- **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:**
 - Lou reported that Municipal Recycling Rates were holding firm.
 - Lou reported that DPW Director is all set & site is clean for upcoming Earth Day cleanup & refuse collection event.

D. Old Business

- **Quarterly Reports for 2013:** Brendan presented the Quarterly Report for Quarter 1 (2013) for review and approval.
 - **MOTION:** Lou made a motion to approve the Quarterly Report for Quarter 1 (2013) as submitted; the motion was seconded by Todd. Vote called; five in favor (Christian Iozzi, Lou Vinagro, Brendan Mara, Todd Sholly, Joe Cardillo); none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed.**
- **Municipal Recycling Report:** No further discussion occurred regarding the Municipal Recycling Report.
- **Backyard Habitat Workshop:**



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- Brendan, Chris, and Todd reported that the 2013 Backyard Habitat Workshop was very successful and well received by all in attendance.
- A total of thirty-two (32) bluebird house kits were fabricated and distributed as part of this year's workshop.

E. New Business

- **2013 Earth Day Trash Collection Event**
 - Event to be held on April 27, 2013
 - Lou reported that everything was all set for the event
 - Lou reported that damaged/broken recycling bins will be collected & replaced as part of this event.
 - Chris Iozzi, Lou Vinagro, and Todd Sholly will be present for all or part of the event.
- **Pending Legislation**
 - **House Bill H5425** – Brendan presented a draft letter prepared on behalf of the conservation commission to the Town Council voicing opposition to the passage of this bill currently pending in the RI State House of Representatives.
 - **MOTION:** Brendan made a motion to approve the draft letter as submitted; the motion was seconded by Joe. Vote called; five in favor (Christian Iozzi, Lou Vinagro, Brendan Mara, Todd Sholly, Joe Cardillo); none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed.**
 - **Senate Bill S0544** – Brendan presented a draft letter prepared on behalf of the conservation commission to the Town Council voicing opposition to the passage of this bill currently pending in the RI State Senate.
 - **MOTION:** Brendan made a motion to approve the draft letter as submitted; the motion was seconded by Todd. Vote called; five in favor (Christian Iozzi, Lou Vinagro, Brendan Mara, Todd Sholly, Joe Cardillo); none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed.**
- **Joint Projects with Outside Groups – Hikes, Nature Walks, and Stargazing:** Chris reported that planning for a stargazing event were pending – additional information to follow at a future meeting.
- **May Column/Article in Foster Home Journal** – Brendan reported that he hoped to submit a photo from the recent Backyard Habitat workshop in lieu of an article for inclusion in the May Foster Home Journal pending approval of the photograph subjects.
- **2013 Old Home days Planning**
 - A brief discussion on potential giveaway items occurred. Chris volunteered to research potential giveaway items (cost, quantity) and present the results at the May meeting.
 - **MOTION:** Chris made a motion to approve spending up to 200\$ on giveaway items for 2013 Old Home Days; the motion was seconded by Joe. Vote called; five in favor (Christian Iozzi, Lou Vinagro, Brendan Mara, Todd Sholly, Joe Cardillo); none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed.**
- **2013 Newsletter:** No information on the 2013 Newsletter was presented for discussion at this meeting.



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- **Wetlands Monitoring** – No information on the proposal to begin a wetlands monitoring program was presented for discussion at this meeting.
- **Review of Subdivision 106 Old Plainfield Pike, AP 6 Lot 39 – Planning Board**
 - The proposed subdivision is located at Assessor's Plat 6, Lot 39 – T. Parker Road & Old Plainfield Pike Foster, RI
 - No significant modifications to the site are apparent based upon cursory plan review.
 - An attempt will be made to perform a site visit, pending availability of Commission Members and formal notification of owner.
 - Further discussion of this proposed subdivision will occur at the May meeting once the Site Visit is completed (if applicable).

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 May meeting.
- **Review of Responsibilities of Foster Conservation Commission per Town Charter:**
Discussion tabled for further consideration at the May meeting.
- **2014 Backyard Habitat Workshop:** Discussion tabled for further consideration at the May meeting.

H. New Conservation Commission Projects

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

I. Adjournment

- **MOTION:** With unbridled enthusiasm, Joe put forth a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Todd with equal enthusiasm. Vote called; all in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. **Motion passed - unanimous vote.**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Next Meeting - Foster Conservation Commission

Date: Monday, May 20, 2013 700PM

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Brendan S. Mara
Secretary