

Foster Land Trust Minutes
January 8, 2008

Foster Land Trust (FLT)
Foster Public Library
South Killingly Road
Foster, Rhode Island 02825

Meeting called to order 7:10

In attendance: Linda Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May; Kristen Cole; Myra Mercier; Lucy Minturn; John Neale. Karen Mueller was excused.

Minutes: For December, approved as presented. (Motion to approve by M. Mercier, seconded by W. May, approved 6-0). The August minutes are still pending from George Christie.

Property activities: There was ongoing discussion concerning signage for the Land Trust properties. The Board is trying to accommodate both taste and maintenance concerns on this issue. Lucy will check into the cost for PVC signs that can include wood grain background as well as colors. These may be costly up front but would require minimal maintenance. We will consider doing the other signs depending on the cost factor. We do need to acknowledge funding sources, (DEM, Nature Conservancy, etc.), as well as type of use for the properties. A final burn of the old building should happen soon. Our RFP was published and a voucher submitted. Paperwork packets are being sent out and 1 has been returned. Bid opening will be at our next meeting.

Financial Activities and Reports: W. May reiterated that the FLT will not put in a Capital Budget request. This is because the Trust receives conveyance fees for capital purchases. The FLT will stay with level funding for our budget request for FY 08/09. Walter will talk with the Town Treasurer concerning copies of the quarterly summaries. Our funds stand at approximately \$37,500 in the Stewardship account and \$110,000 for property purchase. The line item budget was provided for new members for information purposes. K. Cole moved, L. Minturn seconded to accept the financial report. Approved by all, 6-0.

New Business: Two items only. The Town web site should be up and running by 1/9/08. L. Minturn will check into a FLT page. She will work with Randy Rossi and Don Manley. Once we are set up, we can link through the Town of Foster and other places such as the Foster Preservation Society. There was also a "Projo" article that had potentially old misinformation but after discussion, no official correction from the Land Trust was deemed necessary.

Liaison reports: J. Neale reported that the Planning Board would be doing Capital Budget review this month. Also, there is a Rte. 6 rezoning workshop on Jan. 26, 2008. Once the timetable for change is set, more input will follow. M. Mercier reported that the Housing Board is writing the new regulations for Affordable Housing. There will be some concentration on working with non-profit groups in this regard. L. Minturn reported that the Conservation Commission had not met for two months.

Correspondence: On-going request for support for the Open Space Bond. Our funding may soon be running out. The FLT had passed the resolutions requested and they are now with the Foster Town Council and going to our State representatives. The Chair asked for members' input for the Quarterly Summary. L. Tibbetts explained to new members the accreditation policy and why we participate. "Other" included the proposal request as printed, a March 15 brochure for the Land & Water Use Conference held at URI, Housing paperwork that was passed on to M. Mercier, information on the Land Trust Alliance, and meeting notification for the Northern Land Trust Consortium.

Executive Session, pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(5), re: acquisitions:
Motion made by L. Minturn, seconded by K. Cole, to move into executive session.
Passed by all.

Resume open meeting: Due to ongoing negotiations, motion made by J. Neale, seconded by K. Cole, to seal the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passes 6-0. Our next meeting is set for Feb. 5, 2008 at the Benjamin Eddy building. Proposal openings will be the top priority.

Move to adjourn by W. May and passed by all at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Neale

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John C. Neale". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.