

Foster Land Trust Minutes
May 13, 2008

Foster Land Trust (FLT)
Benjamin Eddy Building
South Killingly Road
Foster, RI 02825

Meeting called to order 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Linda Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May; Kristen Cole; Myra Mercier; and Lucy Minturn

Minutes: For April approved as written.

Contract for haying: L. Minturn submitted a draft which was discussed, and Board members suggested amendments. Lucy will make changes and submit the final draft to W. May, who will act as liaison to Gordon Rogers of GTH Bobcat Services (the contractor). Walter made a motion to approve the contract with amendments, with a 2nd from L. Tibbetts. The motion was unanimously approved.

Walter also mentioned that the Foster Town Council is requesting a copy of the Hayfield/Tikkanen RFP. He is also still waiting for information from Karen Mueller about soil testing.

Corporate name change: M. Mercier proposed an official name change from the **Town of Foster Land Trust to Foster Land Trust**. Most official documentation on record now refers to Foster Land Trust. L. Minturn made a motion to accept the change, with a 2nd from L. Tibbetts. The motion was unanimously approved.

Properties: Luke Esser of Boy Scout Troop 2 North Scituate presented a report about his April 5 community service project on the Spencer Property, conducted as part of his requirement to complete his Eagle Rank.

He reported that the property's parking lot is too small to easily accommodate several vehicles, that brush and poison ivy is encroaching the parking area, and the gate is high enough to allow ATV access. He also reported erosion to the handicap-accessible trail leading to the pond, pointed out instances where more adequate trail marking is required, and suggested that some signage at key boundary points might be helpful.

More details may be found in his final report, which will be submitted to the FLT in coming weeks. The report will include general observations about the Spencer property, a prioritized list of recommended projects, and several maps.

L. Tibbetts expressed the Board's thanks to Mr. Esser for his valuable service; FLT will write a formal letter of thanks to the Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America on his behalf.

Site visits: W. May and K. Cole will visit the Hayfield property on Sunday, May 18 to locate and mark boundaries. All other board members are welcome to attend.

Financial: W. May reported approximately \$2,000 remaining to be spent for stewardship/maintenance in FY 2007; this is earmarked for signage at several FLT properties. L. Minturn will submit a requisition for the signage before June 30.

Grants: FLT has received a Champlin Grant towards the purchase of a local property. L. Tibbetts reports that a previously-awarded Chafee Grant may still be available for the purchase of land in Foster. She is working with the Nature Conservancy to research.

Public relations: Nothing to report at this time.

Land Trust involvement in Town's recent proposal to purchase property for active recreation/sports fields: This is in reference to the decision at the recent Financial Town Meeting to purchase property near the Paine School for use as a ball field. Since the Town has funding secured, there is no need to offer funding or resources from FLT at this time. L. Minturn moved to reject offering further monetary assistance in this endeavor, with a 2nd from M. Mercier. The motion was unanimously approved.

Liaison reports: Nothing to report at this time.

Correspondence: Nothing received as of this meeting.

Executive session, pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(5) re: acquisitions: As posted on the Board's agenda, FLT began executive session to discuss ongoing negotiations. Session began at approximately 8:45 and ended at approximately 9:10.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 3 in the Eddy building.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Cole