

Foster Land Trust Minutes
June 2, 2009

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

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Executive session, pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(5), re: acquisitions. To discuss purchase of parcel in the North Foster Greenway.

- Executive session commenced from 7:00 to 7:10
- Regular session commenced from 7:10 to 7:30
- Back into Executive session from 7:30 to 8:15
- Back into regular session from 8:15 to 9:07

In attendance: Linda Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May; Kristen Cole; John Neale; Bill Fortier; Chris Iozzi. Myra Mercier was excused from attending. Ann-Marie Ignasher attended the executive session to assist in discussing details of upcoming purchase.

Minutes: J. Neale moved to accept the May minutes (regular and executive sessions) with no changes, with a second from W. May. The motion passed unanimously. John also made a motion to seal the minutes from the May executive session until the purchase of property in the North Foster Greenway is complete. There was a second from W. May, and the motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship: W. May has attempted to contact Mike Caprarelli, a neighbor of the Tullis-Bockoven property off Walker Road, about the ATV use, and the Spencer property neighbor to discuss trespassers, with no success. He will try again for the next meeting.

Hopkins: W. May reports that he got in touch with Christine Dudley at RI DEM, and they are open to allowing fishing access on the property with few restrictions or conditions. They approve of the management plan, and have a good relationship with Trout Unlimited. FLT will arrange a meeting with RI DEM, Trout Unltd., and FLT soon to discuss short- and long-range plans for the property.

Walter and K. Cole recently marked boundaries along Route 6 for this property, and discovered a USGS water testing shed has been constructed apparently without permission or notice. FLT will follow up with USGS to inquire further about the shed. A beaver dam was also discovered.

Sainio: W. May reports the witch hazel harvesting is still ongoing. There were 25 piles in early spring, and now 34 new stacks. Walter would like to contact H. Congdon to see if

payment is ready for the stacks harvested earlier. J. Neale moved to authorize this action, and B. Fortier seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Spencer: C. Iozzi reported there may be squatters living on the property. There are also several ATV trails coming in from East Killingly Road. There was general discussion about whether the potential squatters were actually on FLT property, or private property. FLT should have this property surveyed so that the boundaries can be properly marked.

Nature Conservancy: The Nature Conservancy would like our input on a management plan for property they are hoping to purchase in Foster. FLT will discuss this proposal when their purchase is complete.

Financial: W. May reported there is currently \$106,807.46 in the capital account and \$38,688.97 in the stewardship account. Conveyance tax receipts are way down, with only \$30.80 collected last month. There is \$965 remaining in the operating budget for 2009, any remaining expenses for 2009 must be submitted for reimbursement before June 30.

The Land Trust Alliance membership fee of \$225 is due soon. However Walter is still waiting to hear from the insurance company vendors (Interlocal Trust and Chubb) about obtaining a discount or reduced rates as members.

Liaison reports: C. Iozzi reports the Conservation Commission is in the process of approving new bylaws. The CC will attend Foster Old Home Days and distribute information about the Asian Longhorned Beetle there. Nothing new to report from the Planning or Housing Boards.

Correspondence: L. Tibbetts reports that the RI DEM has forwarded written requirements around the recent grant award. FLT has until Sept. 4, 2010 to complete the acquisition; however a timeline and management plan must be submitted immediately. There was general discussion, since it seems irregular to submit a management plan before the purchase is complete.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7 in the Eddy building.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole