

Foster Land Trust minutes
September 7, 2010

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

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

In attendance: Linda Los Tibbetts, Chair; Myra Mercier, Vice-Chair; Walter May, Treasurer; Kristen Cole, Secretary; John Neale. Chris Iozzi and Bill Fortier were excused.

Minutes: Motion by John to accept the minutes, with a second by Myra. The Board voted unanimously to accept the August minutes.

Financial Reports/activities:

- Walter reported that the insurance has been paid, and the Treasurer's report is due at the October meeting.

Stewardship Reports/activities:

- **Hopkins:** The clean-up after the vehicle fire is complete; Walter and Bill have cleared the trail of downed vegetation and debris. (Late in July, a stolen vehicle was driven through the Water Supply Board gate and onto Land Trust property where it was burned.)
- **Spencer:** The trail sign is leaning over and needs to be re-posted; otherwise the property is in good shape. There was general discussion about improving the culvert, laying down a layer of stone dust, and removing the concrete barriers. Walter obtained an estimate of \$5,900 to have that work done. However he may be able to ask Bobcat Services to handle part of the labor in conjunction with the terms of the haying contract we have with them. FLT also received a trails grant from DEM to improve the Spencer trail, but since we did not also receive the motorized equipment grant in conjunction with the trails grant, we cannot conduct all of the work originally outlined in our application. Linda will meet with DEM to see if we can get the terms revised since we did not get the motorized equipment grant; between that grant and our contract with Bobcat we may be able to get some of the work done without having to dip into the stewardship account. We will take this up next meeting.
- **Grass:** We need to post signage soon.
- **Other:** We agreed to let DEM conduct a Longhorned Asian Beetle survey on FLT properties, but have had no word about whether it's begun. There was general discussion about using some of the stewardship funds to purchase equipment that FLT needs to use, since we didn't get the DEM motorized equipment grant. There may also be an opportunity to re-apply for that grant next year.

Public Relations:

- An article about the Grass property appeared in the Sept. issue of Foster Home Journal. Our next article is due for the November issue, the deadline is Oct.20.

Grants:

- **DEM Trails Grant:** See above, Linda sent a letter to revise the grant on Aug. 18.
- **RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative Baseline Documentation & Inventory Protocol:** FLT has been named as one of four land trust organizations to participate. FLT will help test and refine a protocol, obtain assistance preparing baseline data for the Hopkins property, and gain public awareness for the FLT mission.

Liaison Reports:

- Nothing to report.

Executive Session, pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(5), re: properties.

- John moved that we proceed to Executive Session, with a second from Myra. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 5th in the Eddy building.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole