

Foster Land Trust minutes
February 7, 2012

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

In attendance: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Linda Los Tibbetts. Present also were Myra Mercier, Vice-Chair, Walter May, Treasurer, John Neale, and Bill Fortier. Kristen Cole and Chris Iozzi were excused.

Minutes – John motioned and Myra seconded to accept the minutes of January 3, 2012, as presented. The motion passed 5-0. The members accepted the corrected minutes from October 4, 2011.

Financial – Walter presented a written report/summary of the Assets and Liabilities of the Land Trust as of 12/31/11. The two liabilities are for the Grass property purchase and for Scituate Survey and the Spencer property survey. Our last payment for Grass is July. Bill Fortier motioned and John seconded to accept the report. Passed 5-0.

Stewardship – For the Spencer property, the handicap bench is in and being stored until warmer weather for installation. We will attempt to place this on the trail where there will be a water view. The survey is nearly finished and Walter reported that he and Linda have walked most of the perimeter. Hopkins property, Linda proposed a possible spring-cleaning with Trout Unlimited. We could also utilize them to help locate access areas for the people fishing. There was also a discussion of a wetlands outlook from the top of the hill located below the cemetery. Moving on to the Hayfield property, Walter and Linda walked to see about establishing a border trail around that piece. There was some general discussion of “trail” definition and what constituted a proper trail. Walter will check with GTH Bobcat Services concerning liming this spring on the Tikkanen and Hayfield properties. There are still four discrepancies in regards to the Delvecchio property and the transfer. Walter is still waiting to hear back from the Town Solicitor on this issue. The Trustees will consider North-South Trail improvements once we have received title to that property.

Grants – There was a short discussion regarding the Handicap-Accessible trail repair grant. This revolved around timetables, insurance and other issues.

Public Relations – We have an email account. It is fosterlandtrust@gmail.com The password will be given to the trustees for their use and access. The Trail Hiking Event is going forward on May 5, 2012. The Chair asked that several members be available for that event. We still do not have a specific time or plan for them yet. Linda will contact the event people to find out more specifics. It will happen at the Spencer property, approximately 48 people, but we don't know capabilities or expectations. We may do two groups, a slower group to do the trail and around the pond, a second group to do the trail out to the river. For the Land Trust Days event, we held back and forth talks. Stargazing as an event is weather dependent, no clouds, etc. It would also be a later in time event since it would need darkness. We also proposed mushrooming with a proper guide, birding on a property, or a fishing event. We also have one geo-cache on the Spencer property. We could look at doing a five-cache search over several properties. We will look into these and discuss more in March. The board is aware of the March 28, 2012 deadline for proposals.

Charter Review Committee – Apparently the committee had a language issue with the word “maintenance” and that it could possibly be abused in the future. It was moved 5-0 to change the wording from maintenance to a “historical operational cost” phrasing that would cover insurance.

Correspondence – The “Land and Water Summit” in March likes to highlight something from each Land Trust for the March event. Linda will send in pictures and a short explanation for the land clearing that was done around Spencer Pond. This could include the Conservation Corps group as well.

The next meeting of the Foster Land Trust will take place on March 6, 2012, 7:00 PM, at the Ben Eddy building.

A motion to adjourn was passed at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Neale