

**Town of North Stonington, CT  
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, April 10, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.  
New Town Hall Conference Room**

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Co-chair Nita Kincaid at 3:10 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Brian Banker, Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Dick "Coop" Cooper, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present.

1) Approve of 02/27/2017 Meeting Minutes

Ellie motioned and Ed seconded to approve the 02/27/2017 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) Approve of 03/27/2017 Meeting Minutes

Ellie motioned and Brian seconded to approve the 03/27/2017 Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion carried.

3) Status of 1750 Farm House Repairs

Nita asked that an item addressing repairs to the 1750 Farm House be added to the agenda. All members of the committee agreed.

Nita then distributed a copy of a written estimate submitted by Gene Anderson, 127 Sleepy Hollow Road, North Stonington to install a 6-inch "L" beam with support in the basement of the 1750 Farm House and repair a portion of the sill under the back door. The estimate is based on what is currently visible, but may be adjusted depending on what is found once work has begun.

4) Status of Plans for Greene Gables

Nita distributed draft copies of two documents, *The Question and Background Information 2008-2011*, which she had written for use by the Board of Selectmen when drafting the "Call of the Meeting" for the upcoming Town Meeting. It is expected that at that meeting questions will be asked about events leading up to the present time with regard to what should be done with Greene Gables, when, and how.

The group discussed the contents of the two documents, how they could be used before or at the Town Meeting, and how it is expected the public will receive the information. The committee gave Nita some suggestions on improving them and approved her giving them to First Selectman Murphy.

5) Member Updates on Projects and Additional Items for Discussion

Nita showed the group a draft flyer for the Town Hall Meeting scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>. State Senator Heather Somers and Representative Diana Urban will be present. The purpose of the meeting is to inform North Stonington residents about the proposed reductions to municipal aid and the transfer of expenses from the State to the Town. Nita encouraged all members of the committee to attend.

Jack informed the group that he had given Community Garden members permission to clean up a small area north of the corncrib for overflow parking. In so doing, the unsightly black sheeting located there from a previous use will be removed and room will be provided for two, maybe three, additional cars.

Ed and Coop agreed to remove the back porch of the 1750 Farm House as soon as the weather turns warmer. Nita will notify them and the tenants when a date is set.

Coop reported that the Community Garden Association had erected the newly approved bulletin board at the garden gate.

The group discussed the status of Jason Miner's Eagle Scout project and noted that they were eagerly awaiting the start of Nate Cherenzia's project. Coop reported that he would sign Nate's *Eagle Scout Project Service Proposal* as soon as Nate receives his *Inland Wetlands and Zoning Permit*.

The group also briefly discussed the list of completed farm projects and those still assigned to be done (see updated list below).

Nita stated that she had spoken with Petrit Marku, owner/operator of Buon Appetito, who inquired whether it would be possible to install solar panels over the gallery field behind the restaurant. Nita told Petrit that she would discuss the idea with the Hewitt Farm Committee and First Selectman Murphy. Committee members questioned whether it was a permitted use under the Hewitt Farm deed and the town's Zoning Regulations, but deferred any decision to the Board of Selectmen.

6) Priorities for April 24, 2017

- Possible impact of *State Budget* proposals on Hewitt Farm
- Status of Greene Gables and the Cabin
- Status of 1750 Farm House repairs
- Update on progress of Scout projects

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper

**STATUS OF SCOUT AND OTHER VOLUNTEER PROJECTS**  
**As of 3/27/2017**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Status</u>
2017	Nicole Gagnon	That "Dam" Trail Picnic Area	Concept being developed
2017	Ethan Smith	Bulletin Board	Concept being developed
2017	Karen Askins	Letterboxing Discovery Trail	Concept approved
2017	Ethan Wiggins	Nature Signs	Concept approved
2017	Nate Cherenzia	Dew Drop Inn Trail Footbridge	Design approved but unsigned
2017	Jason Miner	Apple Tree Footbridge	Construction completed
2015	Roy Amaral	Community Garden Shed	Complete
2014	Grant Leiper	Picnic Tables	Complete
2012	Thomas Kane	Bicentennial Trail Footbridges	Complete
2011	Karen Leiper	Butterfly Garden	Complete
2007	Anna Beuhler	Bicentennial Trail	Complete