

**Town of North Stonington  
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Conference Room  
June 22, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Nita Kincaid at 7:00 p.m. at the New Town Hall with members Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Nita Kincaid and Eddie McGowan present. Because entrance to the building could not be gained, Ellie motioned and Eddie seconded to move the meeting to 51 Babcock Road, North Stonington. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned (Ellie, Eddie) and a written notice to that effect, stating the new meeting place, was posted on the New Town Hall door.

The meeting re-convened at 7:15 p.m. at Kincaids' home, 51 Babcock Road.

**MINUTES**

Ellie motioned and Eddie seconded to approve the Minutes of the 06/08/2011 meeting.

**BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

Jack asked that his email address on the Address List be changed to [kecheneny@comcast.net](mailto:kecheneny@comcast.net). Coop distributed a new Address List updated to 06/22/2011 but noted that it did not reflect this new change.

Eddie nominated and Jack seconded Nita and Coop to be committee co-chairs and to share administrative functions. Nominations were closed (Eddie, Jack). Both candidates were elected unanimously. They will alternate between running the meetings and recording Minutes.

Jack asked questions on the work of the previous committee, as well as about how our committee might proceed. He noted that he had had written a paper that describes some of his thoughts with regard to the committee and its anticipated work, which he planned to distribute at the end of the meeting for future discussion. Eddie also expressed a desire to do some "brain storming" in the future. The committee agreed.

Ellie noted that she had received a request from a high school teacher for a possible historical sign project related to Hewitt Farm. It was decided to discuss this at the same time as the other signs for the farm.

The group briefly discussed a letter pertaining to the Bicentennial Trail sent by Eric and Kathie Kallen to the Board of Selectmen dated January, 23, 2009. Ellie provided a brief history of the letter. It was resolved that the Co-chairs would meet with First Selectman Nick Mullane to determine what actions on the letter have been taken and if anything further was necessary.

The committee then reviewed the List of Suggested Names and Terminology and with one exception (the "Plains Cemetery") came to full agreement on names and terminology that the committee will use in future communications. Ellie will do further research on the cemetery name.

The group then went through an exercise to begin prioritizing a Hewitt Farm "To Do" list. Members also added a few items to the list. The list will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Nita described the meeting she and Coop had with Girl Scout Karen Leiper and her parents to examine potential sites for her Butterfly Garden Project Coop also had met with Tom Kane and his advisor regarding the Footbridge Project. In both cases, the committee is awaiting the Scouts' proposals on how they intend to proceed.

Nita reported that she had communicated verbally and would write a letter to the Conservation Commission indicating that the Hewitt Farm Committee would take responsibility for overseeing the Butterfly Garden Project and for designing and locating the Hewitt Farm entrance signs. Both of these are projects which the Conservation Commission had started shortly before the Hewitt Farm Committee was formed.

The committee discussed the most convenient times for future meetings and concluded that every other Monday at 3:00 p.m. would produce the best attendance and least hardship for all members. Meeting location will be the New Town Hall Conference Room. Co-chairs will put together the calendar of exact dates and submit the required 2011 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS to the Town Clerk.

The group discussed agreeing on a time to visit the Hewitt Farm property together but decided to wait until after the hayfields are cut. No date was set.

Jack distributed his paper to committee members.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Using URGENCY and COST scores obtained from members for each item on the "Proposed 'To Do' List," **Coop** will re-order the list with the most urgent -lowest cost tasks at the top and least urgent - highest cost tasks at the bottom. This will help the committee develop its Work Schedule. The schedule will be subject to continuous updating and revision as the committee proceeds with its work.
2. **Ellie** will contact the Congregational Church Cemetery Committee to determine the "official" name of the Plains Cemetery for inclusion on the Trail Map and other documentation.

3. **Jack** will approach Gwenmoor Marina to investigate the possibility of obtaining materials that can be used as sign poles and bank retention beams. He will also approach Trout Unlimited to elicit their assistance in maximizing the Hewitt Farm fishing environment.
4. **Eddie** will begin to consider and to investigate opportunities for obtaining grant money to perform some of the tasks listed on the committee's Work Schedule.
5. **Co-chairs** will meet with First Selectman Nick Mullane to discuss the appropriate disposition of the Kallen letter.
6. **Co-chairs** will complete and submit the 2011 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

No members of the public were present.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, July 11, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room.** Coop will telephone members ahead to remind them.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper