

Town of North Stonington, CT
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 11, 2014 at 3:00 p.m
New Town Hall Conference Room

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Nita Kincaid at 3:05 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Cindy Faucher, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present. Dick Cooper (Coop) arrived at 3:15 p.m.

1) Approve 07/28/2014 Meeting Minutes

Nita raised a question about the approval of the letterboxing request and any impact on our policy for future similar requests. The committee decided that they would like to receive a brief project application for any additional letterboxes added to the property, so we would be aware of their existence and the owners' names.

Ed motioned and Jack seconded to approve the 07/28/2014 Meeting Minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

2) Hayfields Agreement

Nita reviewed what was said at the Board of Selectmen's Meeting on July 29th with regard to extending the length of time of the agreement for maintaining and harvesting Hewitt Farm's hayfields. The group received a copy of the amendment to this Agreement and agreed it was appropriate. The group is now waiting for the Agreement to be signed by First Selectman Mullane and the "Farmers".

3) Status of Dam Reconstruction Project

Nita reported that the Board of Selectmen is currently investigating the experience of the low-bidder to determine said bidder's qualifications to perform the required work. First Selectman Mullane has indicated that the contract must be signed before the end of August.

Jack noted that so far all comments he had heard about the low bidder were very favorable and Coop added that Cindy, who was aware of the low bidder's work on a recent project, had voiced such at the Board of Selectmen's meeting. The group discussed the contract selection process to date and what was said at the meeting. Members agreed they required no further action at this point.

6) Greene Gables

The committee acknowledged that it still had not received the anticipated correspondence from the North Stonington Historical Society regarding Greene Gables. The group asked Nita to send another letter to the Society requesting the report.

8) Community Garden

Nita suggested that the \$500 check awarded to the Community Garden Association by Chelsea Groton Bank is ready and we may retrieve it and then try to set up a formal presentation and photo-op at a later date.

The group also discussed the cleanliness and security of the Port-a-John located near the Community Garden. There are concerns that the facility needs to be kept clean and locked.

9) Member Updates

Nita and Cindy will work on reviewing and updating the history description on the back of the *Trail Map* and the *History of Hewitt Farm* handout.

Coop will write a brief paragraph about Hewitt Farm to be placed in the fall issue of *North Stonington Today*, the quarterly publication of the North Stonington Recreation Commission.

Nita reported that we received the annual donation of \$100 from the North Stonington Garden Club; this may be applied to whatever the committee considers appropriate for the care and use of the property. The committee asked Nita to compose a thank you note to the Garden Club.

10) Review of "Tasks Identified for Volunteers (07-28-2014)"

The committee reviewed and discussed a list of tasks identified for volunteer groups or individuals to perform on Hewitt Farm. We will continue this review at the next meeting. The list, when complete will be offered as suggestions.

11) Public Comments and Questions

- None

12) Priorities for August 25, 2014 Agenda

- Continue discussion of the volunteer project list
- Update on dam reconstruction
- Update on Greene Gables

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper