

**Town of North Stonington, CT
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 25, 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. Member Cindy Faucher agreed to record the minutes in the absence of Dick Cooper.

Public: Angie & Roy Amaral attended the beginning of the meeting to request information about possibilities for an Eagle Scout Project at Hewitt Farm.

1) Approval of minutes of 8/11/14 Meeting

A Motion was made by Ellie and seconded by Ed to approve the 08/11/14 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) Eagle Scout Project – Added to Agenda

Roy Amaral, a member of North Stonington Scout Troop 71, is preparing to become an Eagle Scout and came to the Hewitt Farm Committee Meeting looking for a project that would meet the requirements, as well as enable him to utilize skills acquired in assisting with past Hewitt Farm Eagle Scout projects (i.e., picnic benches and bridges). The project needs to be completed by April 22, 2015. Nita explained to him the project application process and will forward him a list of appropriate projects from which he can choose. There was a brief discussion of possibilities, including a garden shed for the Community Garden area.

3) Status of Dam Reconstruction Project

Nita gave the committee an update on the Dam Reconstruction Project. The Selectmen had requested information from the low bidder, Mattern Construction, about their performance history in meeting original bid amounts for other projects completed by the company. 47% of projects had come in at or below bid; the majority of projects coming above bid were dues to changes made by the clients. The other concern voiced by the Selectmen was funding, since the town has a low contingency amount set aside for any overruns.

If the Selectmen do not act on accepting this bid at tomorrow night's BOS meeting, the time for the bid being valid will run out and the bid process will have to be repeated at a future date. Under that circumstance, the cost will most likely be greater. Nita asked the committee members to please attend the BOS meeting.

4) Member Updates on Projects & Any Additional Items for Group Discussion

- Community Garden: Nita will communicate with Mary Ann Ricker about timeline and use of Chelsea Groton grant money.
- Trail Map and History Handouts: Nita and Cindy will get together to complete revisions.
- Hayfields Agreement: Everything is signed. Ron Lewis called Nita to communicate they have completed the NRCS invasive treatment and will begin reseeding on Saturday. They expect to be done in the next few days and will do a cutting to clean things up.
- Greene Gables: Nita will compose another letter requesting the update, which had been promised for the end of July.

5) Review of Revised Projects List

The committee continued its review of the list of tasks they had identified for volunteer groups or individuals who were willing to help at Hewitt Farm.

Jack requested that the following additional projects be added:

- Clear a walking trail along the west side of the pond –a path along the waters edge, coming back to the bridge.
- Develop a trail along the backside of the Green/Amphitheater to accommodate horses (5-6 feet wide).

6) Public comments and questions

None

7) Priorities for September 8, 2014 agenda

To be determined by the Co-chairs

Ed made and Jack seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:53 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Faucher

