

Town of North Stonington, CT
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 20, 2014 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 3:08 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Jack Brown, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Cindy Faucher, and Nita Kincaid present.

1) Approve 10/06/2014 Meeting Minutes

Cindy motioned and Jack seconded to approve the 10/06/2014 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) Dam Reconstruction Project

Nita reported that she had attended a progress meeting with First Selectman Nick Mullane and Project Engineer Karl Acimovic and was assured that allowing the stumps to remain in the dam, as they exist, was an acceptable practice. Nita informed the committee that the "big machinery" needed for the next phase of the work is now on site. The group discussed the status of plans for the proposed fishing platform at the dam and general progress of all work to date.

3) Greene Gables

Nita provided a draft letter which requests a status update on the North Stonington Historical Society's recommendations on future plans for Greene Gables. The letter is ready to be sent to NSHS President Frank Eppinger. The committee is aware that the Historical Society is currently focused on publication of Fred Stewart Greene's works. Nita will forward the letter in the near future.

4) Community Garden

Nita presented a request from the Community Garden Association to apply to the Rotary Club of the Stoningtons for funds to build a new fence around the garden. Committee members were surprised at the Community Garden Association's intention to replace the fence without first discussing its plans with the committee.

Nita also noted that the Association had approved a request from Eagle Scout candidate Steven Foster to allow the construction of a second small shed to hold the composting toilet at the garden, and recommended to him that he meet with the Hewitt Farm Committee to discuss his idea. The committee is somewhat perplexed by this, owing to the fact that Eagle Scout Candidate Roy Amaral had already been granted approval for the same project by the Community Garden Association.

After further discussion of the various projects, Nita motioned and Cindy seconded "to approve the request of the Community Garden Association to support and sign the Rotary Club of the Stoningtons' *Grant Request Form* as written with any attached cost information being labeled or identified as an estimate, and premised on a follow-up meeting with the Hewitt Farm Committee to discuss the entire fencing project." The motion was approved unanimously.

Nita will communicate this decision and the committee's other concerns to Mary Ann Ricker and request that she attend our next meeting.

5) Project Updates

Jack described his recent planting of trees and requested that any mowing of the meadow next to the Community Garden be stopped for the remainder of the season. He also described a fern garden that he has begun to establish in the area of The Green and suggested that its completion, including appropriate signage, should be added to the updated project list that the committee recently reviewed.

The committee also discussed the need to keep the project list current. Coop offered to be responsible for this and Nita will provide him with the document in a format that will work for him.

6) Public Comments and Questions

- None

7) Priorities for November 3, 2014 Agenda

- To be determined by the co-chairs

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper