

Town of North Stonington, CT
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 15, 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 Brian Banker, Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present.

1) Approve 12/01/2014 Meeting Minutes

Ed motioned and Ellie seconded to approve the 12/01/2014 Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion carried.

2) Status of Dam Reconstruction Project

Nita briefly described a setback in the construction schedule due to a recent rain storm that impacted the work area. Clean-up work after the storm is now complete and work is progressing as planned.

Pouring of the concrete abutments is expected to occur next week. Following the engineer's "sign-off," back-filling and river-bed site work will begin. This work will prepare for erection of the bridge steel-work. Girders have been delivered and are on-site.

4) Kick off of 2014 Annual Report and 2015 Goals

Nita distributed copies of last year's *Annual Report*, which had included plans for 2014. She asked members to be prepared at the next meeting to determine the contents for our report of 2014 activities, as well as goals & plans for 2015. It was stated that the *Hewitt Farm Vision* and *Mission Statements* are a "back-drop" for goals and plans, and should be reviewed to ensure consistency.

5) Contribution Received for Use by the Community Garden Association

Nita reported a check in the amount of \$500 was received from John and Marti Bradshaw's Trust Fund for use by the Community Garden Association. The check will be deposited in the town account that is set up for the association's income and expenses.

6) Member Items for Discussion

Jack questioned if the year of construction will be etched into the Hewitt Dam foundation. Nita will ask First Selectman Mullane. The committee agreed "it would be nice."

7) Annual Budget

Nita stated that she would begin preparing a draft *2015 Hewitt Farm Budget* and would be prepared to discuss this further at our January 5th meeting. Members suggested a few possible changes from current budget. Nita noted that our budget submission is due by January 16th.

8) Trail Sign Replacement

Coop distributed an inventory list and map showing all trail and other signs presently installed on Hewitt Farm. The list identifies which signs are permanent, which are temporary, and which ones he proposes for replacement (temporary to permanent) in the coming year.

He also distributed a draft "Order Form" describing these proposed replacements.

9) Farm House Annual Inspection

Ed, Cindy and Nita will perform the Annual Inspection of the 1750 Farm House on Thursday, December 18th in anticipation of renewing the tenant's lease.

10) Updates on Eagle Scout Projects

Nita reported that Bill Ricker continues to work with Roy Amaral on his Eagle Scout Project, which is the construction of a shed for use by the Community Garden Association. It was noted that we have heard nothing further from Eagle Scout candidate Steven Foster about his possible project.

11) Review of Hayfield and Community Garden Agreements

Nita reported that she had received a check from the hayfield farmers and a request from them to make their annual review presentation to the committee prior to signing the new lease agreement.

Nita also suggested that she would remind the Community Garden Association that we will need to meet with them for the same purpose (annual review prior to signing the annual agreement).

The committee agreed that our second meeting in January (1/26/15) would be a good time to accommodate these reviews.

12) Priorities for January 5, 2015 Agenda

- Preparation of *2015 Annual Budget*
- Outline Contents of *2014 Annual Report*
- Review of *Vision and Mission Statements*
- Discussion of *2015 Goals and Plans*

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper