

**Town of North Stonington, CT**  
**HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, March 10, 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, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Cindy Faucher, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present. Mary Ann Ricker, Bill Ricker, Diana Hunt and Brooke Dalton of the Community Garden Association were also present.

Nita opened the meeting by requesting that the agenda be amended to allow a brief presentation by the Community Garden Association. The committee agreed.

1) Community Garden Association request

Mary Ann Ricker, representing the Hewitt Farm Community Garden Association, distributed copies of a *Request Proposal* that her group would like to submit to the Chelsea Groton Foundation in order to obtain funds to purchase and install a shed with a composting toilet at the Community Garden site. Mary Ann and the other members of the association described their *Request Proposal* in detail and told the committee that before submitting their application to Chelsea Groton, they needed to know if such a shed with composting toilet would be permitted. The deadline for submission of the grant request is April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Nita stated that because the subject had not been listed on the original meeting Agenda, the committee would not vote on it at this meeting. However, she also stated that the committee would address the subject at the next scheduled meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup> and would provide a response to the Community Garden Association at that time. Nita will contact First Selectman Mullane to determine if the Hewitt Farm Committee has sole authority to give such approval or if the Board of Selectmen should also agree.

2) Approve 02/24/2014 Meeting Minutes

Ed motioned and Cindy seconded to approve the 02/24/2014 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

3) Permanent Trail Signs

Coop stated that he was informed by the manufacturer that the wood for the trail signs has been cut and engraving the lettering has begun.

#### 4) Hewitt Dam

Nita suggested that the committee review draft notes that she and Ellie had taken, describing the committee's meeting with Engineer Karl Acimovic with regard to the reconstruction of Hewitt Dam. The group reviewed the notes item by item making changes to make them as truly descriptive of the meeting as possible.

#### 5) Harvest Festival

Nita distributed a copy of "Revised Notes from the 2/27/14 Meeting" of the Harvest Festival event planners. Discussion immediately focused on the practicality of holding the event if the dam reconstruction project is underway.

Recognizing the likely impact of construction work at and around the dam, the group discussed various alternatives to still be able to use the Hewitt Farm site. However, the group concluded that if the project is underway, the event probably should not be held. The possibility also exists that the project may not get started until after the scheduled date of the event. If that is the case, the event could be held.

The committee recognizes that potential participants should be notified as soon as possible about whether or not the event will be held. It was agreed to recommend to the event planners that they should wait to see if construction bids are issued in early April and returned by the end of April before they make a "go - no go" decision.

#### 7) Public comments and questions

- None

#### 8) Priorities for March 24, 2014 agenda

- To be determined by the co-chairs

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper