

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

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
NORTH STONINGTON CT

**Monday, July 13, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.
New Town Hal Conference Room**

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Co-chair Nita Kincaid at 3:03 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. First Selectman Nick Mullane and Highway Department Foreman Steve Holliday were also present.

1) Approve 06/29/2015 Meeting Minutes

Jack motioned and Coop seconded to approve the 06/29/2015 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) Status of Summer Projects at The Farm

Nita distributed a copy of the June 1, 2015 Meeting Minutes, in which portions had been highlighted to indicate the summer projects that the committee wanted to discuss with the Highway Department. Following a thorough discussion, all parties involved agreed to perform tasks as described in the attached *Addendum #1* to these Minutes.

3) Status of Restaurant Parking Request

The committee discussed an anticipated request from the operators of Buon Appetito to expand the restaurant's parking area. Nita reported that she had provided First Selectman Mullane with a list of questions, which the committee believes need to be answered in order to evaluate such a request. To date, the Selectmen have not received any formal request for expanded parking.

4) Plans and Communication for the Harvest Festival

A member of the public was present and asked about plans for the Harvest Festival. Nita briefly described how the event was conducted in 2011 and stated that the committee expects this fall's event to be quite similar. One major difference is that this year the committee is being joined by the North Stonington Garden Club and the Community Garden Association to organize and manage the event. It will also take place on both sides of the dam instead of only on The Green.

Addendum #1
to the
HEWITT FARM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
of Monday, July 13, 2015

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The following tasks on Hewitt Farm will be performed this summer by the Hewitt Farm Committee and/or the NS Highway Department

1. The Highway Department will determine if the drainage ditch next to the entry to the parking area entrance needs any further work.
2. The Highway Department will remove the wooden bridge platforms from the Route 2 Parking Area. If the nearby large granite blocks are not moved for use in the bridge area, then the Highway Department will re-arrange them in a line along the parking area's border with Route 2.
3. The Highway Department will resurface the Route 2 Entrance from the highway to Greene Gables' gateway with the same gravel material as is used on the Ryder Road end of Hewitt Road ("Hewitt Road gravel").
4. The Committee will work with the Highway Department to install the new Route 2 Entrance sign, in accordance with the State's Sign Permit approval. The work will include landscaping to be done by the committee
5. The Highway Department will remove the felled-tree debris near the entrance. The Committee will clean up the entranceway area.
6. The Highway Department will resurface the front area of the Greene Gables driveway with Hewitt Road gravel.
7. The Highway Department will remove small debris piles along the western edge of the Greene Gables Meadow.
8. The Committee will get quotes on extending electricity to the concrete pad area next to the Corn Crib in order to enable use of this space for outdoor events.
9. The Committee (Dick Cooper) will coordinate with the Highway Department to move three Hewitt Farm picnic tables that remain at the Town Garage to locations on site.
10. The Committee will move the pieces of the 1750 Farm House railing that are currently stacked in the back yard to the rafters in the Farm House carriage barn.
11. The Highway Department will remove the small stump pile from the recently cleared area near the Pine Tree grove along Hewitt Road north of the 1750 Farm House. They will provide loam to cover this area.
12. It was decided that a project to replace the 1750 Farm House west-side entry porch with its original stone steps should be postponed.
13. It was determined that resurfacing the driveway from the footbridges to the 1750 Farm House with Hewitt Road gravel should wait until after completion of the Dam.
14. Possible removal of the two utility poles on the ground in the area of the Welcome Sign (Hewitt Road turn-around) will be investigated.
15. Possible removal of the utility pole located north of the apron on the Route 2 end of the dam will be investigated.

Nita reported that she asked First Selectman Mullane if commercial enterprises could participate in the Harvest Festival provided they only offer information and do not conduct business. Mr. Mullane did not see a problem with this, but felt any businesses should be local.

The committee also discussed the possibility of accepting donations for Hewitt Farm during the event. A "collection jar" at the committee's table was suggested.

Nita also asked committee members if we should consider paying for certain types of entertainment, such as music. It was suggested that specific proposals for such funding could be considered, if they are thought to be necessary.

5) Community Garden Association Shed Dedication

Ellie, Nita and Coop described the Community Garden shed dedication ceremony for the benefit of committee members who were unable to attend. The shed was constructed by Roy Amaral as his Eagle Scout Project and is professional in all respects. It will be much appreciated in the months and years ahead.

6) Status of the Butterfly Garden

Nita and Coop reported that Girl Scout Karin Leiper and her troop leader, Julie Evans, have done work on the Butterfly Garden. It is now very presentable.

7) Trail Signs

Coop reported that Jeff Danforth, manufacturer of the new trail signs, had informed him that the shipment is being delayed so that Jeff may to include a gift that he is presenting to the committee. We will await Jeff's surprise contribution.

8) Priorities for July 27, 2015 Agenda

- Status of summer projects
- Plans and communication for the Harvest Festival
- Status of new trail signs

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper

Attachment: *Addendum #1*