

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, June 29, 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 3:10 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Brian Banker, Jack Brown, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Cindy Faucher and Nita Kincaid present.

1) Approve 06/15/2015 Meeting Minutes

Cindy motioned and Jack seconded to approve the 06/15/2015 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) Community Garden Shed Celebration

Nita showed an invitation that she and others on the committee had received inviting them to a gathering of the Community Garden Association to celebrate the new garden shed built by Eagle Scout Candidate Roy Amaral. The event will be held at the Community Garden on July 11, 2015 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Committee members indicated that they would try to attend.

The Community Garden Association was asked to complete an *Event Application Form* in order to use a propane stove during the event. The form has been signed and returned.

3) Restaurant Parking

Nita distributed a list of questions that the committee is requesting be answered before it can comment on the possibility of the restaurant expanding its parking area. The list will be given to First Selectman Mullane.

4) Plans and Communication for the Harvest Festival

Nita reported that she had been contacted by Marilyn MacKay from the North Stonington Business Association asking if commercial for-profit establishments could participate in the Harvest Festival, provided they did not sell their products or service at that time. After a brief discussion, the group concluded that such groups or individuals could participate, but only to provide information, not to do business. Nita will discuss this possibility with First Selectman Mullane to make sure such activity is appropriate.

5) Heritage Apple Tree Project at Yale

Coop stated that, in response to an article in the North Stonington Citizen's Land Alliance May 2015 *NewsBrief*, he had emailed information and photographs of the old apple tree in Hayfield #1 for the Heritage Apple Tree Project at Yale University to review. The hope is that the Yale group will select the tree for study and provide the committee with information on its variety, age and health, as well as maintenance advice.

6) Garden Club Native Oak Tree

The *Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut* is offering \$200 toward the purchase and planting of a "native" oak tree by member garden clubs. The *North Stonington Garden Club* is interested in taking advantage of this and would consider planting such a tree on Hewitt Farm, provided an appropriate site can be found.

Since the past meeting, committee members have individually visited the site and marked possible locations for the tree, which they consider appropriate. Following discussion, it was agreed that the best location would be southeast of the Community Garden near the existing concrete pad, but sufficiently far from the garden so as not to shade it. This location will be marked, and may be critiqued by the public and users of the Community Garden until its planting time in the fall.

6) Status of the Butterfly Garden

Nita indicated that she had contacted Girl Scout Troop Leader Julie Evans to determine the troop's plans for maintaining the Community Garden this summer and in the future. Ms. Evans plans to work with Karen Leiper, the Girl Scout who did the project, so that the garden will be appropriately maintained.

7) Priorities for July 13, 2015 Agenda

- Community Garden Association shed dedication
- Plans and communication for the Harvest Festival
- Heritage Apple Tree Project at Yale
- Status of new trail signs
- Status of the Butterfly Garden
- Restaurant parking

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper