

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, February 23, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.
New Town Hall Conference Room**

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Nita Kincaid in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Ed Harasimowitz, Brian Banker, Cindy Faucher and Nita Kincaid present. Mary Ann Ricker, Mike Daniels and Ron Lewis also attended parts of the meeting to give their annual reports.

1) Approve 1/5/2015 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Ed and seconded by Ellie to approve the 1/5/2015 Meeting Minutes, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

2) Annual Report of HF Community Garden Association

Mary Ann Ricker gave members of the committee copies of the Chelsea Groton 2013 Annual Report containing wonderful pictures and information about the Hewitt Farm Community Garden. In looking back over the last year she felt many of the goals had been met such as incorporating children and multi-cultural activities into the garden which helps bring the community together. They are looking forward to working with students both in the elementary and high school as well as the girl scouts in the near future. Their goals for next year include a new shed as well as new fencing to keep the critters out of the garden as the present fence is approaching the end of its product life.

Mary Ann also mentioned there have been changes to the by-laws with regard to "Terms of Office-Elections" whereby gardeners need to attend the January meeting or have a written proxy in order to cast a vote. She also said they will be holding gardeners to the mark regarding upkeep of their plot.

The Hewitt Farm Committee thanked Mary Ann for her vision and success in gathering people who take pride in the garden that is attractive, neat and an asset to the farm.

3) Status of Dam Reconstruction Project

The bridge girders and decking are in. However, due to the extreme winter weather, the project is on hold temporarily, with completion still set for the spring.

It was suggested by Jack that some of the flat stones stored near the parking area could be used for seating for those who are fishing. The budget is on track and Diana Urban is continuing to attempt to secure grant monies toward the town's expense for the dam reconstruction.

4) Meeting With The Board of Selectmen

The HFC is on the agenda of the March 3, 2015 Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss our submitted budget, particularly the request for \$2,500 to be used in evaluating and making recommendations as to the future use of the cabin.

7) Annual Report on the Hayfields

Mike Daniels and Ron Lewis presented the committee with the Hewitt Farm Hayfields Fall 2014 Report that outlined the projects completed to date as well as future plans for 2015. The Committee is very pleased with the condition of the fields and recognizes the ongoing efforts to eliminate invasive species while improving the quality of the hay.

Time did not permit any discussion on Agenda items 5 and 6.

9) Public Comments & Questions

- None

10) Priorities for March 9, 2015 Agenda

- To be determined by the co-chairs

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Faucher (Acting secretary in the absence of Dick Cooper)