

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, April 20, 2015 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 3:06 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Brian Banker, Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Cindy Faucher, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present.

1) Approve 04/06/2015 Meeting Minutes

Nita noted that the meeting agenda erroneously called for approval of minutes for a "3/23/15" meeting, and that item #1 of the Agenda should instead read "Approval of Minutes 4/06/15 Meeting." Ed Harasimowitz suggested a few clarifying changes in item 7. Brian then motioned and Ellie seconded to approve the 04/06/2015 Meeting Minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

2) Dam Reconstruction Project

Nita reported on the dam reconstruction progress meeting she had attended a week earlier. She imparted the following information:

- a) If sufficient funds remain as we approach the end of the project, the downstream bank southwest of the dam will be redesigned to include a retaining wall.
- b) A combination wooden and metal railing will be installed on the stairway to the fishing platform.
- c) Paving on the bridge and the western approach to the bridge will consist of one course of asphalt. The approach will be sloped to permit rainwater runoff without creating erosion. Paving on the east side of the bridge will be ramped to the existing grade in a manner that will accommodate snow plowing.
- d) A metal plate will be reinstalled at the eastern spillway at the completion of the project, so that the pond flow may be managed. A different type of gate that would enable improved manual control of the flow may be installed at a later time.

e) The Project Engineer will soon be issuing a "Punch List" that records the status of work yet to be performed. This will enable all parties involved in the project to track remaining work vs. remaining funds.

f) The contractor is responsible for returning the entire site to its original condition upon completion of work. This includes area clean-up and reseeded.

g) Final inspection and "sign-off" of all work will be performed by the Project Engineer. Connecticut DEEP personnel are not involved.

### 3) Route 2 Entranceway Improvement

Jack reported that all trees which had been requested to be removed were gone, and sight lines for vehicles exiting Hewitt Road are greatly improved. Nita thanked Jack for the work he has done in this area and for cleaning the brush along the Route 2 tree line from Hewitt Road to the restaurant.

The group briefly discussed what it wants to do as far as placement of the Route 2 Entrance Sign and its accompanying landscaping. A written plan exists that has been approved by the town's Zoning Official and CONNDOT.

The group also discussed possible future redesign of both the Route 2 entranceway and the parking lot once the bridge is open to traffic. It was agreed that we'd like to find a way to remove the greenwood bridge planks that are of no use to us and that occupy space in the parking area.

### 4) Research on The Cabin

Ellie reported that she had made contact with Brian Crandall and that he in turn called Nita to arrange a follow-up inspection of The Cabin. On Friday, April 10th, he met with Nita at The Cabin and this time was able to inspect a few areas that were previously inaccessible.

### 5) Community Garden Shed

Nita reported that the Community Garden shed recently built by Eagle Scout Candidate Roy Amaral has been installed at the garden. She explained to the committee the financial process involved in paying for it, which was different than the way such projects had been funded in the past. Nita also signed the document that Roy needs in order to prove to the Council that his project is complete. The composting toilet that was ordered on behalf of the Community Garden Association is due to be delivered shortly.

Nita also stated that she had met with Troop 71's new Scout Leader, Douglas Spracklin, and had acquainted him with the mission and goals of the Hewitt Farm Committee.

## 6) Trail Signs

Coop reported that he had re-visited the sites of the proposed new replacement Trail Signs and concluded that the first one on the list ("Bicentennial Trail") should be changed to show a right arrow instead of a left arrow. Otherwise, he recommends that all others be ordered as shown on the draft order form.

The group agree that Coop should request a written proposal from Danforth Signs & Carving of Vancouver, WA based on their previous outstanding performance and quality deliverable.

## 7) Comments and Questions

Ellie asked what had become of the metal pieces that were uncovered during the dam reconstruction project. Nita stated that the Highway Department was placing them in an area behind the Historical Society's headquarters. Nita will check to see what has been saved.

Coop stated that the driveway gate behind the 1750 Farm House looks to be in pretty good condition. It will have to be removed when the back yard fence is torn down. Brian will take a look at it so see how it can be removed and if it is worth saving.

Three picnic tables have already been placed in use. Three remain. The group agreed one should be placed under the maple tree at the Community Garden one at the rear of The Green where it was last year, and, after work on the dam is complete, one at The Cabin.

## 8) Priorities for May 4, 2015 Agenda

- Topics to be determined by the co-chairs

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper