

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, November 14, 2016 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 3:04 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.

1) Approve 10/31/2016 Meeting Minutes

Ellie motioned and Ed seconded to approve the 10/31/2016 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) Schedule for 2017 Meetings

Nita distributed a DRAFT "2017 Schedule of Meetings" for review and approval by the committee, and explained her rationale for selecting the dates she had chosen. After a brief discussion, the group voted unanimously on Ed and Ellie's (seconded) motion to approve the schedule.

3) Annual Report for FY 2015/2016

Coop distributed copies of the *Hewitt Farm Committee Annual Report 2015/2016* dated 11/1/2016. Nita stated that she had submitted the report to the Board of Finance as requested in its letter, but that the board notified her the report had to be in a different format and should contain only information pertinent to the current reporting year.

These requirements were not in the Board of Finance's initial letter. Nita made the requested format changes and re-submitted the document with a request that she be notified of any further changes that the BOF decided must be made.

4) Storage of Relics

Nita showed a photo of the iron chain relic that Jack had recovered from behind the 1750 Farm House. The group will investigate an appropriate place to store it along with other similar relics found at the mill site.

5) Bush Hogging the Meadows

Brian announced that he would be available to Bush Hog the 1750 Farm House Meadow on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup>. Coop and Jack will join him to paint the stumps of invasive plants with herbicide after they have been cut. Coop will obtain a bottle of herbicide from Nita.

6) Order for New Trail Signs

Coop stated that he had not yet ordered the new trail signs and would not do so until he has sent a "thank you" letter to the Garden Club for its \$650 donation. He noted that the location of Jason Miner's proposed footbridge would make it unnecessary to erect a "HORSE CROSSING" sign near the apple tree. Coop will investigate the possibility of substituting two trail signs, which are smaller, for the same price.

7) Member Updates on Projects and Additional Items for Discussion

Nita remarked on the attractive appearance of the river in the area of the Canoe & Kayak Launch. The group agreed that it might be attributed to the present high water level, lack of debris, and possibly some housekeeping by visitors who use the area.

Jack reported that he's observed a lot of people visiting Hewitt Farm for the first time. He also noticed that people are putting stones back on the walls throughout the farm just as the "WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP" signs suggest.

The Town Hall will be closed for the budget referendum vote on November 28<sup>th</sup>, which is when our next meeting is scheduled. The group decided not to schedule a replacement meeting, because we will have a regular meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>; hopefully by then we will know the results and be able to move forward with budget-related items.

8) Priorities for December 5, 2016

- Ramifications of FY 2016/2017 Budget Approval
- Update on ongoing Eagle Scout projects
- Status of new Trail Signs' purchase

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper