

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, December 5, 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 3:00 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Brian Banker, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present.

1) Approve 11/14/2016 Meeting Minutes

Nita, Brian and Ed briefly reviewed minutes, but they were not voted upon for approval since a quorum was not present.

2) Projects Related to 2016/2017 Budget Approval

Nita noted that the \$10,000 amount which had been requested for repair of 1750 Farm House support beams was included in the approved Selectmen's Capital items. These repairs are needed to stabilize the structure. Obtaining estimates for the work to be done was discussed and it was agreed to obtain several estimates. It was noted that if the estimated amount were above \$10,000, we would have to consider various options.

The group agreed that the small porch facing the Green should be removed since it contributed to the beam problems by creating water run-off, plus removal would allow easier access to the foundation and exterior basement area. We will also investigate entrance to the basement on the other side of the house through an old cellar door that's not used.

Nita also reported that the hot water heater at the Farm House had failed and was replaced in the past week for \$1200 plus labor cost and these dollars would come out of the Hewitt Farm \$5000 annual line item for maintenance.

Ed, Brian and Nita next discussed the possibility that the Cabin and/or Greene Gables would be eligible for the \$60,000 included in the budget to demolish town buildings that were deteriorating and not being used. The Cabin does have water, but we are not sure about what type of septic system is on site. Given the lack of any foundation for the small building and the cost of improving it without a clear, worthwhile use for the structure makes removal seem appropriate. Nita mentioned that there might be some salvageable items.

With regard to Greene Gables, we discussed the interest expressed by the Historical Society. However, they have not followed through with promised estimates for stabilization of the building, nor have they identified any future use for it. It has not been inhabited since 1996 and continues to deteriorate. There are significant hazardous

materials present and refurbishment would be very costly. Nita will work on pros & cons of demolishing the structure.

The group agreed that both of the buildings would need to come to a town meeting for input from the public.

3) Order for New Trail Signs

Coop notified Nita that the sign order had been placed.

4) Member Updates on Projects and Additional Items for Discussion

Nita reported that Eagle Scout candidate Jason Miner has been raising funds for his project.

Nita stated that the lease renewal letter for the 1750 Farm House had been sent to the Bremers and she anticipated that she & Ed would be doing the annual inspection soon.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Harasimowitz