

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, January 4, 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 3:05 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Ellie Banker, Jack Brown, Dick (Coop) Cooper, Nita Kincaid and Ed Harasimowitz present.

1) Approve 12/21/2015 Meeting Minutes

Ellie motioned and Ed seconded to approve the 12/21/2015 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

2) 2015 Annual Report

The committee began the meeting by discussing what items should be included in its 2015 Annual Report to the Town. Among those items were projects on the property achieved by the committee and others during the year, and events held at the farm within the year. The Report will be written by Nita and approved by the committee at our next meeting.

3) 2016 Goals: Priorities

Nita distributed a list of goals that the committee had compiled over the past several meetings. The list contained 14 goals, which the group agreed should be prioritized to make their achievement more realistic. Committee members each individually assigned his or her own priority to each of the goals on the list and when members were finished, the priorities were added up to result in a final most-important to least-important list.

This list with all goals prioritized, will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen as part of the committee's Annual Report.

4) 2016/2017 Budget

Nita will compile a draft budget for committee review and approval. This 2016/2017 Budget will be based on maintenance work and improvements anticipated at the farm throughout the next fiscal year, and expenditures required to accomplish the goals which the committee has prioritized.

5) Annual Reports from Hayfield Farmers and Community Garden Association

Nita reported that the hayfield farmers had communicated to her their desire to present their annual report whenever it is convenient for the committee. Members acknowledged that any date in the near future would be acceptable although the committee would prefer to meet with the farmers and Community Garden Association on separate occasions. Nita will coordinate meeting dates with the two parties.

6) Member Updates and Additional Items for Discussion

Jack suggested that it might be helpful if First Selectman Murphy would meet with the committee to learn more about what we are doing, as well as to provide us with any input on his priorities. Nita will extend the invitation after we have completed our work on the budget.

7) Priorities for January 25, 2016

- Election of officers
- Review of the 2016 Annual Report
- Review of Hewitt Farm's 2016/2017 Budget

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper