

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, January 9, 2012 at 3:00 p.m**  
**New Town Hall Conference Room**

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Nita Kincaid at 3:10 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Dick (Coop) Cooper, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present. Jack Brown arrived at 3:20 p.m. Rubin Spitz was also in attendance.

Public comments and questions (Agenda #5)

Because only three members of the committee were present at the meeting's start and it was known that Jack Brown would be late, Nita asked Rubin Spitz if he wished to address the committee. Rubin reiterated his request of the previous meeting to use Hewitt Farm to exhibit art sculptures, and possibly to hold an opening event that would be attended by the public and might include entertainment.

Committee members asked Mr. Spitz additional questions regarding his proposal in order to better understand specifically what he would do. Ed and Coop both raised the question as to whether the exhibit would be a "commercial" event. Nita explained that the committee is currently in the process of describing a "vision" for the future of Hewitt Farm and until such a time as this "vision" is better defined, it is difficult to determine what specific activities are permitted at Hewitt Farm.

Jack Brown suggested to Mr. Spitz that he submit a detailed written description of his proposal and committee members will evaluate it based on the "vision" criteria that are developed.

Approve 12/12/11 Regular Meeting Minutes (Agenda #1)

Coop motioned to approve the 12/12/2011 Minutes and Ed seconded. The motion carried.

Fire Chief to discuss possible dry hydrant at Hewitt Farm (Agenda #3)

Fire Chief Charles Steinhart and firefighter Codie Morgan, representing the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company, arrived at 4:10 p.m. to describe the need for installing a dry hydrant at the western end (Route 2 side) of Hewitt Dam. They stated that although the hydrant could be installed on the eastern end (Ryder Road side), the western side of the dam was much preferred because readily available water is needed to fight any fires at the hotels and other commercial properties on Route 2. The Firemen described how a dry hydrant operates, how it is constructed and installed, and why it is needed at that location. Cost of constructing the dry hydrant would be borne by the

"town" (not from the Hewitt Farm fund) and would be installed by the Highway Department.

Ed asked whether it might be installed in conjunction with the dam work this coming summer and received the response that such an approach was reasonable. The four committee members present agreed that it is a viable proposal and that it would be included on the Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting agenda, so that Ellie & Eddie who were not present could participate in a vote on the proposal. It should then be forwarded for approval to the Board of Selectmen.

#### Continue discussion on "Vision of Hewitt Farm." Identify next steps(Agenda #2)

As at the previous meeting, Nita distributed the detailed list of "vision" comments made by individual committee members, only this time she had highlighted in yellow those comments that were most applicable to a "vision" for Hewitt farm. Nita also distributed guidelines for creating a vision called "What is Vision?" and a list of exactly what she had recorded on the flip chart at the previous meeting.

Again, she asked committee members which "visions" have consensus agreement among the members and which ones do not. She promised to type and distribute the new items added to the flip chart.

Because there was not sufficient time remaining in the meeting to complete this exercise, the exercise will be resumed at a **Workshop** next Monday, **January 16, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in the New Town Hall**. No other business will be conducted at that meeting.

#### Member Update (Agenda #4)

Jack - Recent site work:

Jack reported to the committee that he and Dave Fede had cut up a large fallen Pine tree behind Greene Gables and that Highway Foreman Steve Holliday agreed to have the resulting debris removed.

Jack asked the committee for approval to cut certain other trees that are currently standing in that area. Ed, Coop and Nita agreed to meet with Jack at **Greene Gables** on Wednesday, **January 11, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.** for a **Workshop** to look at the area and the other trees in question.

#### Meeting Schedule.

The next **Regular Meeting** is scheduled for Monday, **January 23, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.** in the **New Town Hall Conference Room**.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Richard B. Cooper