

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, March 12, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.
New Town Hall Conference Room**

The meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Chairman Ed Harasimowitz at 4:40 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Jack Brown, Dick "Coop" Cooper, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present. Mary Ann Ricker representing the proposed "Get out the Vote" event was also present.

1) Approve of 02/26/2018 Meeting Minutes

Nita motioned and Ed seconded to approve the 02/26/2018 Meeting Minutes as amended.

2) Community Garden Association Issues

Nita reported that she and Ed would be meeting on Saturday with Diane Hunt and Steve Aiello to review the financial account of the Community Garden Association and the process whereby purchases are processed.

Ed also reported that he had signed the contract between the Community Garden Association and the Town to allow the association to continue gardening for another season.

3) "Get out the Vote" Town Wide Event

MaryAnn Ricker representing the group planning the "Get out the Vote" event showed a draft flier that the group intends to use to advertise it. She explained the group's plans for financing the event and described how a "silent auction" would be conducted to raise funds. MaryAnn also showed the draft of a form that donors of items for the silent auction would use in order to obtain a tax deduction. The committee agreed that Mary Ann could proceed with publication and distribution of the fliers and silent auction donation sheet.

4) Member Updates on Projects and Additional Items for Discussion

Nita informed the committee that Brie Cassadei had been appointed Alternate Member of the Hewitt Farm Committee by the Board of Selectmen.

Nita also reported that she had received a communication from the town's Animal Control Officer describing an incident at Hewitt Farm in which a dog or dogs apparently not under control had approached an individual in what the individual considered to be a threatening manner. The group discussed changing the current small signs to larger signs with a more forceful message. Nita showed the group her suggested design and members agreed it was worth a try. Ed will visit STAPLES to determine if this sign can be made of permanent material and if so one will be purchased for each trail head and parking lot.

Tim Chokas, representing himself, described to the committee numerous large trees that have fallen over the trail or are hanging precariously. He stated that he frequently carries his chain saw and cuts them up, but occasionally they are too large for him to handle. Such was the large tree which had fallen across the Bicentennial Trail behind the cemetery. The tree was subsequently removed by the Highway Department and the committee thanked the department for doing it.

Ed agreed to contact an oil company to have the furnace of the 1750 Farm House cleaned.

5) Priorities for March 19, 2018 Agenda

- Welcome new member Brie Cassadei
- "Dogs under Control" signs
- Committee goals for 2018
- Pavilion and Frisbee course planning

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper