

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, February 26, 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 4:30 p.m. in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Jack Brown, Dick "Coop" Cooper, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present. Member Brian Banker joined the group at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Mike Coats was also present to describe his proposal to construct a Frisbee Golf Course on the Hewitt Farm property.

1) Approval of 02/12/2018 Meeting Minutes

Nita motioned and Jack seconded to approve the 02/12/2018 Meeting Minutes as amended.

2) Community Garden Association Issues

Ed will carry the Community Garden Association's contract with the town to MaryAnn Ricker and Steve Aiello for their signatures.

Nita reported that the association's financial balance had been reconciled by transferring payment of a service to the proper account. She explained how the town pays its bills from Budget Line Items and that past confusion with how the association pays its bills has now been resolved. Nita and Ed will meet with Steve and Diane Hunt to discuss the procedure.

Nita stated that the Garden Club is again making discretionary funds available to organizations for worthy purposes and the Community Garden Association will very likely be submitting an application. This would be done through the Hewitt Farm Committee.

3) Greene Gables Progress

Nita read from a tentative schedule provided by Eagle Environmental, the company selected to advise the town on its demolition projects. The town will soon be selecting contractors for the abatement and demolition phases. The buildings must be demolished and removed immediately after the abatement is completed and this will be addressed in the contract.

4) “Get out the Vote” Event

Ed read an email from Bill Ricker to the Board of Selectmen describing the proposed “Get out the Vote” event that the town's political committees are proposing for Hewitt Farm in the spring. Bill will submit an *Event Application* to the Hewitt Farm Committee for its review and approval.

5) 2017 Annual Report

Ed reported that he had submitted the *2017 Annual Report* to the Board of Finance.

6) Proposal to Construct a Disc Golf Course

Mike Coats submitted a *Project Application* to construct a Disc Golf Course (a.k.a. Frisbee Golf Course) on Hewitt Farm. His application included an information sheet from the Disc Golf Association that describes course equipment and construction. Mike's current plan is for 18 holes but the committee suggested it would be better to start with only 9 holes.

The committee agreed on a process whereby it can evaluate the proposal to determine if the project is appropriate for Hewitt Farm. Mike will lay out the course on the farm by placing a colored ribbon at nine potential tee and nine potential basket locations. He will then show these locations on a map (Trail Map or other) so that committee members can physically walk the course and view them. Committee members will do so on an individual basis and the group invited Mike to its March 12th meeting to discuss his proposal. Ed was assigned Mike's point of contact.

7) Member Updates on Projects and Additional Items for Discussion

Ed showed photographs of local pavilions he had seen and the group discussed the possibility of constructing one on the farm as a 2018 committee goal. The group concluded that it must first identify who would be using the pavilion and that would determine its design, where it will be located and what utilities it will require.

The committee acknowledged that several meetings ago Bill Ricker had provided it with a report showing many different types of pavilions and agreed that this will be the subject of much discussion over the coming year. Thank you, Bill.

The group also discussed its expenditures on the farm so far this year and questioned if there was anything special that needs attention before the end of this Fiscal Year. Ed noted that there would be a charge for work currently being done at the 1750 Farm House, Nita suggested a second (finish) coat of paint for the new door and surrounding area, and Coop suggested spending money to deal with the porch railing surrounding the structure.

Brian and Coop expressed their concern over the large tree that has fallen over the Bicentennial Trail behind the cemetery. Coop suggested that a professional tree service might be employed by the committee to remove it.

Brian noted that it is imperative the overhanging trees around the border of the meadows be removed this spring so that he can safely and effectively Brush Hog the meadows in the fall. It was suggested that the committee might also hire a tree service to do this work.

8) Priorities for March 12, 2018 Agenda

- Disc Golf Course
- Committee Membership
- Discussion of committee goals for 2018
- Deadfall Tree over Bicentennial Trail

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper