

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, October 7, 2019 at 4:30p.m.
New Town Hall Conference Room**

The regular meeting of the Hewitt Farm Committee was called to order by Chairman Ed Harasimowitz at 4:30 PM in the New Town Hall Conference Room with members Nita Kincaid, Ellie Banker, Brian Banker, Jack Brown, and Tim Chokas. Ed Harasimowitz was recording secretary.

1. Pavilion Dedication Ceremony

The event started at 1:00PM and was very well attended. Our state representative Kate Rotella presented the town with an award which can be viewed in the selectman's office.

2. 1750 House Occupant RFP

A basic RFP form was handed out to the committee members for their input. We are seeking a candidate to live in the house as caretaker and also be capable of repairs and restoration work.

3. Tree Planting

The town has acquired a sapling white oak and asked the committee if there was a suitable location on the farm for planting. The committee approved a location near the community garden.

4. Hewitt Farm Dog Issues

There have been several dog related incidents in the past months that are a concern to pet owners using the farm. Off-leash dogs have confronted leashed dogs and caused injury to the leashed dog. The HFC proposed mandatory leash requirements for all pet owners using the farm. This requirement was met with strong resistance from the owners. A survey was conducted on Facebook and in-person to determine what owners preferred for pet control at the farm. Results showed that 54% preferred off-leash control; 30% preferred on-leash control; 17% preferred a separate area for dogs; and 3% preferred no dogs at Hewitt Farm. As a result of the survey, the HFC will continue with the current requirements of off-leash control.

5. Animal Control Facility

North Stonington Animal Control currently use Stonington's facility for animal control. It was suggested that a new facility be constructed on the Hewitt Farm in the location of the cabin at the route 2 entrance. The committee considered this location unsuitable and voted against constructing a facility there.

6. Dick Cooper Plaque Installation

Committee members have located a suitable stone for installation of the plaque. The committee will move the stone to the entrance of the Dam Trail and install the plaque.

7. Historical Society Update

The Historical Society has started archieving the artifacts that are currently stowed in the 1750 house carriage shed. This is a time consuming effort which will be ongoing until completion.

8. General Maintenance Update

The property was mowed and trimmed for the ceremony. The area looked nicely groomed.

9. Approval of 9/16/2019 Minutes

Minutes were not available for approval.

10. Member Updates on Projects and Additional Items for Group

N/A

11. Public Comments

N/A

12. Next Meeting Date

October 28, 2019

Ajourned at 5:09PM

Respectfully submitted
Ed Harasimowitz