

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, January 8, 2018 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 Brian Banker, Jack Brown, Dick "Coop" Cooper, Ed Harasimowitz and Nita Kincaid present. Mary Ann and Bill Ricker were also present to address the committee.

1) Request to Hold Event

Mary Ann Ricker said that she was attending the meeting to propose an idea for holding a springtime event at Hewitt Farm that would serve as a "get out the vote" rally and possible fund raiser. The event would be sponsored by the Republican and Democratic Town Committees with possible support from the Economic Development Commission and Board of Selectmen. It would be held on June 2 or 9 with a rain date of June 3 or 10. Present thought is that the funds raised would be used to construct a pavilion at Hewitt Farm although that idea is not firm.

Mary Ann explained that the event would be conducted as an outdoor social gathering with activities yet to be determined. Food would be served from a single central location under control of the event organizers. Ledge Light Health District would be involved in the planning and conduct of the food service, and the event organizers would take responsibility for all site preparation and activities.

Mary Ann stated that the purpose of her visit was to ask the committee what means of financing the food service would be allowed at Hewitt Farm. Nita described the type of transactions conducted at past events and what restrictions had been imposed. The committee agreed that charging for food would be acceptable provided the money did not go to personal profit of any kind. Nita offered to review whether "profit making" is an issue.

In general, the committee appeared very receptive to the proposal.

2) Post and Beam Pavilion

Bill Ricker distributed a report entitled "Post and Beam Pavilion" that he had prepared at the request of Nita and in response to several years of discussion over the need for such a structure at Hewitt Farm. The report is very thorough and contains photographs and designs of sample pavilions found elsewhere. It also contains written design requirements for a structure that could be erected at Hewitt Farm.

Of particular note was a drawing prepared by Bill showing how the footprint and fireplace of the existing cabin could be used for a pavilion. Bill asked the group to appoint a three-member subcommittee to look into the project. He also suggested that money raised from the proposed "get out the vote" rally could be put toward the pavilion. Nita added that the construction of a pavilion somewhere on Hewitt Farm falls within the committee's goals for Hewitt Farm. Much of the committee's dilemma, however, has been where it would be located.

In concluding, Bill made a request to the committee to have the two large doors inside the cabin removed and saved when the building is demolished.

3) Approve of 12/04/2017 Meeting Minutes

Ed motioned and Coop seconded to approve the 12/04/2017 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

4) Selection of Officers for 2018

Recognizing that Nita's new position as Selectman for the Town of North Stonington will be consuming much of her future time and attention, committee members appointed Ed as its new Chairman. Coop will continue to perform the duties of Secretary until such time as a replacement is found.

5) 1750 Farm House Inspection and Lease Renewal

Ed distributed his report on the 1750 Farm House inspection that he and Selectman Bob Carlson performed on December 15, 2017. The inspection is done annually to ensure the property is properly maintained for rental occupancy.

The report cited four items that need to be addressed. Namely, installation of an additional electric circuit in the kitchen, treatment of flaking ceiling paint in several of the rooms, servicing of the furnace, and replacement of the domestic water system filters.

Ed will see to it that these items are addressed.

6) Budget Status, Annual Report and 2018 Goals

Nita distributed a copy of a memo from First Selectman Mike Uργο requesting a *Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget*. She will meet with Ed and Coop sometime during the next week or two to prepare it.

7) Priorities for January 22, 2018 Meeting

- Progress with the *Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget*
- Draft *Hewitt Farm Committee Annual Report*
- Discussion of committee goals for 2018

Respectfully submitted, Richard B. Cooper