

Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee
September 21, 2020
Approved Minutes
7:00 PM

This meeting will take place electronically and will be recorded. In order to participate, go to <https://zoom.us/j/99434803588> Or participate via telephone +1 (929) 436-2866

Attendance

Present Remotely:

Beth Sautter, Chair
Cindy LeBlanc, Vice-Chair
Kristina Snyder, Conservation Representative
Ted Broadwater, Conservation Representative
Chuck Myette

Absent:

Corinna Reishus, Recreation Liaison, Treasurer
Kendall Kunelius
Maria Oakley
Colin Costine, Alternate
Stephen O. Landau, Selectman Liaison

Members of the Public Present Remotely at Various Times:

Call to Order – Open Meeting

Chair Sautter called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

I. Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes

August 24, 2020 - Tabled

II. New Business

1. Insurance Update – Chuck Myette

Selectman Myette indicated the Town Administrator sent the information and 25% of premium to the broker. The policy will be in effect upon receipt and covers the trust, events, hay rides, farming activities, crops, equipment, personal property and Lane Road property too.

2. Haying Update – Chuck Myette, Bob Pepper

Selectman Myette indicated Mr. Pepper went out and cut the Lane Road fields. Earlier the Wason and Towle Road pieces were done. Selectman Myette and Mr. LeBlanc having been haying the other areas. The first cut

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yielded 200 bales in early summer. 30-40 bales were cut last week until the shaft broke. Kyle LeBlanc let us use the sickle bar mower and the fields were cut across from the high tunnel. There are probably another 60 bales. Sales have gone quickly at \$5/bale. Have \$1,000 for the Trust to apply toward the barn restoration project. Baling again Wednesday afternoon, then will do clean up work, brush hogging around field, house and trails.

Chair Sautter noted she would like to get soil samples from Mr. Pepper to send to UNH.

Selectman Myette indicated the Ortins got an extension on their lease which will not end on 12/31/20 and renew on 1/1/2021 and go through 12/31/2021. The Ortins have been using the farm stand to sell pumpkins, squash, corn, and sunflowers. The Ortins have been to the TRC, Building Inspector and Planning Board for preliminary review and then will go for Site Plan review with the Planning Board for use of their food truck on the premises. They will need off-street parking where the high tunnel edge of field and other side of gravel trail.

4. Discuss status of buildings at the farm – garage and out-buildings, ADA list for first floor

Selectman Myette indicated the Trust was meeting tomorrow night in person at the farm. Julia Webb has been making masks for COVID and asking for donations and raised about \$2,000 for the barn restoration. Selectman Myette invited the Advisory Committee members to attend that meeting and look at the buildings.

Selectman Myette indicated the siding on the garage should be done before winter as the Trustees could not come back this year. The timber frame structure near the silo and siding and roof also need to be done. Renovating the barn is the highest priority.

Selectman Myette indicated his wife, Nancy was looking into the register. There have already been some modifications and probably not cost effective to put on the register.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc noted an ADA engineer needs to come out and tell us what we need to make the Farm compliant and recommended getting on the BOS agenda.

5. Looking ahead to next year: ideas, functions, leases

Vice-Chair LeBlanc noted she would do the Foodscaping class again next year and hopefully the Committee will be able to do the Fall Fest again.

Chair Sautter noted she checked the trails on horseback and it would be a good 5K course. Mr. Broadwater noted Jean Methot of the 300th Anniversary Committee is working on a 5K and parade. Selectman Myette indicated there is a new geocaching site plus a historic one. Ms. Sautter noted there is one at the Lane Road farm.

6. Budget Discussion

Chair Sautter recommended keeping the amount of the budget at \$2,750 for Spring Hill Farm costs and \$1,500 on the Advisory side. The Committee will be asked to go before the BOS and present the budget.

Ms. Snyder motioned to send in the budget with \$2,750 for Spring Hill Farm and \$1,500 for the Advisory Committee. Vice-Chair LeBlanc seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Snyder – aye, Selectman Myette – aye, Vice-Chair LeBlanc – aye, Chair Sautter – aye, Broadwater - aye. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

7. New Items

8. Review of Action Items

- Soil Sample from Bob Pepper – by 10/19
- BOS Agenda – Beth & Cindy – by 10/1
- ADA list – by end of year

III. Adjournment

Chair Sautter motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM. Vice-Chair LeBlanc seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Snyder – aye, Selectman Myette – aye, Vice-Chair LeBlanc – aye, Chair Sautter – aye, Broadwater - aye. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Hoiijer,
Recording Secretary