

Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee  
October 25, 2021 - 7:00 PM  
Approved Minutes

**Present:**

Beth Sautter, Chair  
Kristina Snyder  
Kim Rairdon  
Mark Desiderio  
Stephen O. Landau, Selectmen's Liaison

**Members absent:**

Chuck Myette  
Cindy LeBlanc  
Maria Oakley  
Ted Broadwater, Alternate  
Colin Costine, Alternate

**Guests present:**

Alex Bartels  
Chester PACT

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Sautter called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

**II. Old Business**

**A. Approval of minutes – September 20, 2021**

*Ms. Snyder moved to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2021 meeting as written. Ms. Rairdon seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

**B. Treasurer's Report**

The previous balance was \$2,678.24. Trust insurance for September 2021-22 was \$580. There was a false fire alarm at the farm in September, so the alarm company vacuumed the detectors at a cost of \$265. Selectman Landau said the Board of Selectmen is trying to get all alarms under one department to consolidate funds for the Town. Total expenses for the month were \$946.88. New balance is \$1,731.36. The Advisory Committee figure is steady at \$1,500.

*Ms. Rairdon moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Desiderio seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

**C. Cow and farm status from the Cattlemen**

Mr. Bartels reported that this will be the cattlemen's last meeting with the SHFAC, as growing season is completed. He thanked the SHFAC for giving them the

46 opportunity. They hope next year they can hold more educational programs and  
involve more children, especially to bottle-feed calves. He reported on the fields that  
48 have been fertilized. They have re-fenced three pastures. They will have brought in  
and spread over 500 yards of manure by the end of the year.

50 The Committee discussed ways to facilitate selling and moving hay bales next year.  
Mr. Bartels recommended selling hay from the field to save the labor and time  
52 moving bales to the barn. They have cut over 1,100 bales this year, as opposed to  
approximately 300 last year. He anticipates the numbers will increase as a result of  
54 their fertilizing the fields. Selectman Landau offered the use of his equipment. Some  
of the cows will winter over at the farm.

56  
**D. Grant application status – Eversource**

58 Chairman Sautter reported the \$2,500 check has been received and deposited.

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**E. Review of Fall Fest**

Chairman Sautter said Fall Fest went very well and was larger than the previous  
62 year. Selectman Landau said the Board of Selectmen received many comments  
praising the children's activities. Next year's event is tentatively scheduled for  
64 Columbus Day weekend. Selectman Landau recommended asking the Board of  
Selectmen to pay for a dance floor, to have square dancing next year. They discussed  
66 ways to minimize the presence of flies next year. They also discussed requesting  
feedback from the vendors that were present.

68  
**F. Review of Derry Trail Riders – SHF Benefit Trail Ride**

70 Chairman Sautter reported that next year, it will be the SHF Benefit Weekend, with  
the Fall Fest and the Trail Ride. Eighty-two riders participated. \$887 was brought in  
72 over the weekend from sales and raffles. With donations, the total raised was \$1,640.  
Derry Trail Riders donated \$500, for a total of \$2,140.

74  
**G. Hay Progress**

76 Ms. LeBlanc was not present at the meeting, so there was no report.

78  
**H. Budget for FY 2022-23 (for BOS meeting Nov. 18)**

Selectman Landau recommended the Committee request additional funds for work to  
80 improve the farm and farm equipment, including the ADA-compliant ramp.  
Chairman Sautter will revise the budget and re-submit it to the Board of Selectmen.

82 **III. New Business**

**A. Welcome New Member (Rec Commission Liaison) - Mark Desiderio**

84 The Committee welcomed Mr. Desiderio as a new member.

86  
**B. New Treasurer Position**

Ms. Reishus is no longer a member of the Committee, so a new treasurer is needed.  
88 Chairman Sautter reviewed the duties of the treasurer.

**C. Grant Application – NHPA for 2022**

The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance has opened a grant with matching funds for \$10,000. The Trust applied last year but did not receive the grant, so will submit a letter of intent again this year.

**D. Discuss potential quarterly newsletter**

Chairman Sautter suggested starting a quarterly newsletter to inform the Town about what's going on at the farm, including fun facts, events, contests, articles, etc. It would be emailed to interested residents and be linked on the Town website and the Facebook page. Selectman Landau suggested including it in the Town Report. Copies could be handed out to new residents. The Committee is in support of this and the first issue will come out this fall.

**E. Dog Leash Ordinance**

Residents are being told to bring their dogs to the pond on the farm to swim off-leash. Mr. Desiderio recommended the Dog Beach at Wason Pond be fenced off, so dogs could swim there off-leash and the Committee agreed. Mr. Desiderio will discuss the issue with Mr. Hadik, Chairman of the WPC, and present the issue to the WPC. Selectman Landau recommended this suggestion be brought to the Board of Selectmen.

**F. Review of Action Items (new and previous)**

Increase membership by 1 by December 31, 2021

**G. Conservation Commission report**

Ms. Snyder reported last week's pollinator presentation went well. She has seeds from the presentation and would like to spread them in the pollinator area on the farm in mid-November. She and Deb Munson from the Conservation Commission plan to grow milkweed seedlings again next spring.

**H. Open Well**

Ms. Snyder and Victor Chouinard filled in the open well on the farm property, as it was very dangerous. There is still trash in the area. Selectman Landau will discuss the Scouts cleaning this area as a service project.

**I. Next meeting – Monday, November 15, 2021**

**J. Adjournment**

*Mr. Desiderio moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 4-0-0.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Hangeli, Recording Secretary