

Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee
April 18, 2022 – 7:00 PM
Approved Minutes

Present:

Beth Sautter, Chair
Kristina Snyder
Chuck Myette
Kim Rairdon
Cindy LeBlanc
Mark Desiderio
Joe Biedrzycki (joined at 7:07 PM)

Members absent:

Colin Costine, Alternate
Ted Broadwater, Alternate

Guests present:

Stephen O. Landau, Selectmen's Liaison
Christy and Nick Ortins
Chester PACT

I. Call to Order

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

II. Old Business

A. Approval of minutes – March 21, 2022

Ms. LeBlanc moved to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2022 meeting as written. Ms. Rairdon seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Selectman Landau, who abstained. The motion passed 5-0-1.

B. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Desiderio reported that the February beginning fund balance was \$1,051.91. The Advisory Committee fund balance was \$1,300.00. There was \$441.00 in expenditures, which includes heating oil and two electrical bills. February ended with a balance of \$610.60.

The March beginning balance was \$610.60. There were expenses of \$449.00 in March, which included the annual security (\$360 for the year) and both electrical bills. The Advisory Committee had a charge for paper of \$0.94. In March, there is a pending A/R from the ranchers of \$223.45 for electricity. With that, the ending balance is \$438.64 and the Advisory Committee ending balance is \$1,299.19.

Selectman Landau noted the security cost should be paid by the Town as it is a Town-owned property. Any farm repairs and equipment should be covered by the Trust.

Ms. Snyder moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Ms. LeBlanc seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Welcome Joe B.

Chairman Sautter welcomed Joe Biedrzycki as an official member of the Committee and thanked him for joining.

D. MOU for SHF Cattlemen

Mr. Myette reported the MOU for the cattlemen has been drafted and agreed upon. It will be signed by all parties this week. There are eight cows on the farm now and will use the three fields close to the house for pasture. They have agreed to work on a \$500 lease. Everyone will help with the haying. The farm will get 2/3 of the bales taken off for sale and they will get 1/3. They will help with other activities as well.

Selectman Landau asked if the fields have been damaged by parking on them during festivals. Mr. Myette said there is generally minor damage, which is mainly on the road in front of the high tunnel. Selectman Landau suggested the Town bring in gravel. The damage to the field is compaction, so they might run an aerator over it this year.

E. Fall Fest – Date Verification

Ms. LeBlanc reported the Fall Fest will be on September 10th, as there will be no Town Fair on that date. Mr. Desiderio reported the Recreation Committee would like to hold an activity in the fall, so they suggested adding value to the SHF Fall Fest and offered possible activities. Mr. Myette warned this is not an event of the size of the Town Fair and the farm cannot accommodate the same number of cars. The Committee discussed possible participants in the festival. They discussed moving the children's activities to a more visible location, and having music and dancing. The Committee agreed they would welcome help from the Recreation Committee. The primary goal of the festival is fundraising for the farm.

F. Trails/Trail Marking Update

Selectman Landau reported a 16-year-old Boy Scout approaching Eagle Scout would like to do a project at Spring Hill Farm. He is interested in marking and developing trails, and will need to do fundraising for his project. This would have to be approved by the Troop Committee and the Eagle Board. Ms. Rairdon suggested his building and designing the kiosk. She has refilled the paper trail maps and the laminated ones have been left for others to use. She suggested blazes are necessary at intersections only.

Mr. Biedrzycki reported the Scout proposing to build planter boxes has had his project approved and will start shortly. Ms. LeBlanc said transforming the chicken

coop into a potting shed has also been approved. Mr. Myette has a list of potential projects, one of which is the timber frame tack shop, which needs siding and a roof.

G. ADA Ramp

Chairman Sautter has spoken with someone who can design a wooden ramp. She has requested a design, a bill of materials, and a quote. Mr. Myette said it needs to have an engineer's stamp.

H. Work Day – May 14 or May 21?

Mr. Myette said the Conservation Commission will be removing debris and doing brush hogging on the hill as an Earth Day project. The Committee decided to hold a work day on May 21st. They discussed having a porta potty on site at a cost of approximately \$180/month. Mr. Biedrzycki will collect suggestions and compile a list of tasks to be accomplished on work days this summer.

I. Newsletter

Chairman Sautter said the newsletter will go out in early May and discussed what will be included in it. Suggestions include an overview of the conservation easement, invasive plants, and the Ortins CSA.

III. New Business

A. Open Discussion

Ms. Snyder said Southern New Hampshire Planning is willing to place a free pedestrian counter between the high tunnel and the pond to find out how many people are using the farm. It will most likely be placed mid- to late July over two weekends. They are gathering data points for future information.

B. Next meeting – Monday, May 16, 2022

IV. Non-public session

Selectman Landau moved to go into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (l) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present. Mr. Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Sautter – aye, LeBlanc – aye, Snyder – aye, Desiderio – aye, Myette – aye, Rairdon – aye, Landau – aye, Biedrzycki – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

The cameras were turned off at 8:29 PM.
The meeting room was reopened at 8:39 PM.

130 *Selectman Landau moved to come out of non-public session. Mr. Myette seconded the*
131 *motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.*

132 *Selectman Landau moved to seal the minutes indefinitely. Mr. Myette seconded the*
133 *motion. A roll call vote was taken: Sautter – aye, LeBlanc – aye, Snyder – aye, Desiderio*
134 *– aye, Myette – aye, Rairdon – aye, Landau – aye, Biedrzycki – aye. The motion passed*
135 *unanimously.*

136 *V. Adjourn*

138 *Mr. Myette moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was*
139 *taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.*

140 The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.

142 Respectfully submitted,
144 Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary