

**Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee (SHFAC)**  
**February 13, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Members present:**

Beth Sautter, Chair  
Cindy LeBlanc  
Kristina Snyder  
Mark Desiderio  
Joe Biedrzycki  
Kim Rairdon

**Members absent:**

Chuck Myette  
Colin Costine, Alternate  
Ted Broadwater, Alternate

**Guests present:**

Marilyn Bartlett  
Alex Bartels  
Buddy Menard  
Ann Podlipny  
Chester PACT

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Sautter called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**II. Old Business**

**A. Attendance**

Ms. Podlipny expressed interest in helping with the activities of the SHFAC, but said she does not have to be a full-fledged member, if the Committee already has a full complement. Chair Sautter will find out if there is an additional spot available on the Committee.

**B. Approval of minutes – January 16, 2023**

*Mr. Biedrzycki moved to accept the minutes of the January 16, 2023 meeting as written. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Ms. LeBlanc, who abstained. The motion passed 6-0-1.*

**C. Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Desiderio explained that expenses in January were \$555.11 for electricity and oil. He does not have the breakdown, so the Committee decided to table approval of the Treasurer's Report until next month.

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**D. Winter festival update**

The Committee reviewed and discussed the updated bullet list provided by Recreation Director Corinna Reishus.

50 Ms. LeBlanc expressed concern about parking. The parking area is the hay field and the warm weather might soften it enough for cars to cause damage. The Committee discussed parking at Wason Pond and on the road, which would require obtaining permission from the Town and bussing participants to the farm. The temperatures are supposed to drop and be cold enough to freeze the field.

54 The cattlemen expressed concern that onlookers during the dog sledding might lean on the electric fence. The Committee agreed they would erect warning signs. The cattlemen have placed cones on the road around the back of the barn, as it gets muddy when people drive in to view the cows. The Committee discussed applying crushed stone to that part of the road. The cattlemen reported there are two calves on the farm and decided there should be a naming contest during the Winter Festival.

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**E. SHF brochure concept**

Mr. Biedrzycki presented a draft of a brochure about the farm to be distributed in town. Ms. Podlipny explained that she felt residents should know more about what happens at the farm, which will hopefully generate more interest. It will include pictures and historical information as well as the current state of affairs.

68 Ms. Podlipny suggested adding a land acknowledgement regarding the indigenous people who cared for the land before the farm was established. She also suggested adding the groups the SHFAC partners with. Ms. LeBlanc will look for a similar brochure produced by the Ag Committee. Mr. Biedrzycki will create a rough draft to be reviewed by the Committee and obtain a quote for printing.

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**F. Wish list of projects and championing projects**

Chair Sautter reviewed the list of projects and asked members to select one to champion to help them get accomplished. Members were encouraged to add additional items to the list. Ms. LeBlanc said if anyone knows any craftsmen who would like to volunteer their time, they are welcome.

80 Ms. LeBlanc is looking for items to equip the potting shed. Mr. Desiderio noted there is money left in the budget, so some materials could be purchased.

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**G. Maple lease update**

Mr. Myette was not present, so there was no information on the lease except that it is pending.

**H. Discussion on subscription to grant publication**

Mr. Biedrzycki reported that he has discovered a website that lists grant possibilities across the country. It is a subscription site, so he suggested subscribing for a month to research four to six possible opportunities.

*Ms. Snyder moved to approve a month's subscription to GrantWatch.com. Mr. Desiderio seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.*

**III. New Business**

**A. Species Survey**

Ms. Snyder explained the Chester Conservation Commission has obtained two proposals for conducting a species survey at Spring Hill Farm around the wetlands and the pond area. This has been recommended as the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) requires more detailed information before approving projects (i.e. Eagle Scout projects) on the property and the New Hampshire Fish & Game is currently not able to do this work due to staffing shortages. This will be paid for by the Conservation Commission and will be completed in the spring.

**B. Condition of trails**

Mr. Biedrzycki reported the trails on the property are in good shape overall, but are icy and muddy.

**C. Cattlemen**

The cattlemen reported they are interested in continuing their lease. Chair Sautter said there is a Trust meeting next week and she will bring up the subject at that time.

**D. Next meeting – Monday, March 20, 2023**

**IV. Adjourn**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary