

Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee (SHFAC)
June 19, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.
Approved Minutes

Members present:

Beth Sautter, Chair
Kristina Snyder
Cindy LeBlanc
Chuck Myette
Joe Biedrzycki
Ann Podlipny
Stephen O. Landau, Board of Selectmen Liaison (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)

Members absent:

Kim Rairdon
Mark Desiderio
Colin Costine, Alternate
Ted Broadwater, Alternate

Guests present:

Chester PACT

I. Call to Order

Chair Sautter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Old Business

A. Attendance

B. Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2023

Mr. Biedrzycki moved to accept the minutes of the May 17, 2023, meeting as written. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor except Ms. LeBlanc and Mr. Biedrzycki, who abstained. The motion passed 4-0-2.

C. Treasurer's Report

In Mr. Desiderio's absence, Chair Sautter reported for April, the beginning balance was \$292.63. The cost of electricity was \$73.25, bringing the balance to \$219.38.

In May, the cost of electricity was \$37.24, bringing the balance to \$182.14.

For the Advisory Committee fund, the balance at the end of April was \$1,269.95. The only expense in May was \$0.21 for copies, for a balance of \$1,269.74. There are outstanding charges for a canopy, printing, Porta Potty rental, stain, and possibly the purchase of a ladder and tables.

44 *Ms. LeBlanc moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for April and May as read.*
46 *Mr. Biedrzycki seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The*
motion passed unanimously.

D. Cattlemen Update

48 Ms. LeBlanc reported there were two calves on the property, but they have been
50 sold.

E. Geary Farms Update

52 Ms. LeBlanc said they are plugging away and have asked to buy the remaining stall
54 of hay.

F. SHF Brochure Update

56 Mr. Biedrzycki shared the final draft of the brochure and an estimate of printing
58 costs. The Committee reviewed the draft and made recommendations. They
60 discussed the number of copies needed to distribute at fairs and at locations around
town and the cost of printing.

62 *Ms. Podlipny moved to accept the brochure with revisions as noted and authorize*
the printing. Ms. LeBlanc seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in
64 *favor. The motion passed unanimously.*

G. Site Plan and Septic Inspection for SHF

66 Mr. Myette said they are waiting for the site plan from the surveyor. A septic design
68 is needed per Building Inspector Bunker, as the intended use is changing. The
Committee discussed contacting the state to find the original septic design. Mr.
70 Myette said no work inside the farmhouse can be started without the site plan and
septic design.

H. Grant process

72 Mr. Biedrzycki reported that AARP did not accept the proposal. The Eversource
74 grant proposal for \$10,000 has been given to Mr. Myette. The Committee agreed that
the community center grant would not be appropriate for this property. He will
76 investigate the New Hampshire Moose Plant Grant Program.

78 The Committee discussed the value of subscribing to GrantWatch. Mr. Biedrzycki
will speak to Town Administrator Doda to see if the Town has a subscription.

80 The Committee discussed how the Trust could become involved with New
82 Hampshire Gives. Mr. Myette pointed out that the Town is not a non-profit
organization, but the Trust is.

84 Ms. Podlipny asked if SHFAC could collaborate with an organization and serve as
86 an adjunct. Mr. Myette said this type of activity does not exist in the Town at this

88 point. The Committee agreed a decision needs to be made as to how the farmhouse is
90 going to be used. Mr. Biedrzycki asked how this process would be started. Mr.
Myette said a business plan could be created, incorporating the current management
plan and short-term and long-term goals.

92 Ms. Podlipny asked if there is a trail from Chester Academy to the farm, and
94 suggested bringing students to the farm for educational programs. The Committee
discussed the difficulties that have been encountered in the past in proposing
bringing students to the property.

96
I. Plastic Bench

98 Ms. Podlipny reported the bench has been installed, although there is concern that it
might disintegrate over time. The rate of collecting plastic bags has slowed down,
100 but is still occurring. The Committee discussed the locations of the collection boxes.
She reported there was a celebratory Ice Cream Social on Memorial Day weekend,
102 but no one attended.

104
J. Boy Scout Kiosk as SHF

Chair Sautter said the kiosk is onsite at Spring Hill Farm. The Committee noted it is
106 well-built. Building Inspector Bunker said he did not receive a permit application
and has concerns about the location. The Committee noted it is in a temporary
108 location and can be moved. Mr. Myette will speak with Mr. Bunker.

110 Mr. Biedrzycki said he no longer sits on the Boy Scout board.

112
K. Haying Update

Mr. Myette said they are working on equipment and have picked up an additional
114 piece. They hope to hay over the weekend, if the weather stays dry. Mr. Biedrzycki
asked if volunteers were needed, but Mr. Myette said they would need to be
116 experienced.

118
L. Staining Project at SHF

Chair Sautter said they tried to set up a workday, but the weather has not cooperated.
120 Ms. Podlipny has been working on the staining. There are other buildings that still
need to be stained and more supplies are needed.

122
M. Town Fair - September 9

124 Chair Sautter said the Town Fair is September 9th. The Committee agreed they
would like to have a table at the Fair, as they have in the past.

126
*Ms. LeBlanc moved that SHFAC should have a presence at the Town Fair. Ms.
128 Snyder seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion
passed unanimously.*
130

N. Fall Fest - September 23

132 Ms. LeBlanc has sent registration forms to vendors and welcomed others to register.
134 Mr. Biedrzycki will design a postcard for advertising. Ms. LeBlanc will speak with
136 Mr. Costine regarding setting up parking and exit signs. The Committee discussed
displaying old vehicles and tractors, demonstrators to invite, and activities. New
signs will be needed.

O. Chester Conservation Commission Update

138 Ms. Snyder updated the Committee on the survey being conducted on the property
140 and the species being recorded.

III. New Business

A. Any new discussions

B. Next meeting – Monday, July 17, 2023

IV. Non-Public Session

146 *Mr. Myette moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) for reputation.*
148 *Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any*
150 *person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting.*
Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion
passed unanimously.

152 The cameras were turned off at 8:44 p.m.
154 The meeting room was reopened at 8:59.

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

V. Return to Regular Meeting

160 *Mr. Myette moved to seal the minutes for the non-public session indefinitely. Selectman*
162 *Landau seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. The motion passed*
unanimously.

VI. Adjourn

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

168 The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

170 Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary