

MINUTES

Special Meeting of the Parmelee Farm Steering Committee

Thursday August 21, 2012 - Killingworth Town Hall

The following committee members were in attendance: Robert Broach, Christine Cronin, Terry Doyle, Linda Dudek, Doug Ewers, Tim Gannon, Richard Pleines, Peg Scofield.

Absent: Karen Milano

Guests: Bruce Dodson, Cathy lino, Mike Fortuna

Tim Gannon called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Mike Fortuna spoke to the committee about the five bids the town received for the work to be done at the farm with the STEAP Grant money. The bids ranged from \$219,000 to \$313,000. Cathy lino suggested that we talk to all of the bidders to ascertain why all of the bids were so high. Mike Fortuna stated that he had gone through all of his numbers and double checked and cannot not understand why the bids came in as high they did. There was lengthy discussion as to why the bids were so high. Mike suggested that the committee look at the lowest bid from Noble Construction of Essex. His firm has worked with them before.

Mike Fortuna then went over a list of possible changes that could be considered in order to bring the construction costs down to the \$150,000 amount of the STEAP Grant. There was lengthy discussion of the items on his list. Mike told the committee he feels that if we are able to talk to Noble, he believes that we can get the cost down to the \$150,000 amount which would be covered by the STEAP Grant. There was discussion as to the town ordinances governing the bidding procedure. It was suggested that Mike might speak to the town attorney, Bill Howard, and get clarification as to whether speaking to one of the bidders is appropriate under the rules set down by the town charter.

Peg Scofield moved that the committee recommend to Cathy lino that Mike Fortuna speak with town attorney, Bill Howard, to clarify what is allowable in the bidding process under the town charter, seconded by Tim Gannon. Unanimously passed.

Mike Fortuna will report back to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cronin, Secretary