

## MINUTES

### Special Meeting of the Parmelee Farm Steering Committee

Thursday May 16, 2013 - Killingworth Town Hall

The following committee members were in attendance: Robert Broach, Christine Cronin, Bruce Dodson, Tim Gannon, and Peg Scofield

Absent: Terry Doyle, Linda Dudek, Karen Milano, and Richard Pleines

Guests: Robert Tishbein and Walt Tishbein

Tim Gannon called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Robert Tishbein then made a presentation on his proposed Eagle Scout project. He plans to build bat houses and install them at the farm. He stated that it is widely known that the Connecticut bat population is steadily declining due to the white nose syndrome. He also said that he plans to build extra bat houses to sell and will donate the proceeds to the farm. Tim Gannon suggested that perhaps he might also include in his project a planned presentation to be done at the farm to make people in Killingworth aware of the problem and he could sell his bat houses at that time. Tim also suggested that Robert speak to Mark Clifton with regard to his project. Mark has been helpful to other scouts with their projects. There was lengthy discussion. Robert will get back to the committee when he has finalized his project plans.

Bruce Dodson then announced that trails day on June 1 at the farm has been cancelled for this year. He also stated that A Place Called Hope has requested to use the farm for an evening program on June 15.

Tim then showed the committee a sample of flooring for use in the hallway and the new handicapped restroom in the farm house. There was discussion.

Tim reported that the Connecticut representative from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Program Sean Healy had come by and cleared the field behind the schoolhouse with an ATV and a rough cut mower. While the field still needs more attention, the preliminary work has been done. He reported that this came about after Cathy Iino attended a meeting and learned that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife agency will set up partnership agreements with towns to help with the management of land for wildlife habitat. The Town has signed an agreement with Fish and Wildlife. There was lengthy discussion.

Tim reported that the well work has been completed and that the community garden now has running water. The spigot will be moved outside of the garage and a timer will be installed. This will complete the work. There was discussion.

Tim announced that the propane tank was delivered today and the hole has been dug. The next step is to have a concrete pad installed. Peg will speak to Jim Lally and find out who to get for this work.

Bruce Dodson moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held April 4, 2013 with the following correction on page 2 paragraph 4 --it reads "Karen Milano the" - it should read "Karen Milano then" , seconded by Robert Broach. Unanimously passed.

Peg Scofield moved to approve Robert Tishbein's Eagle Scout project, seconded by Bruce Dodson. Unanimously passed.

Bruce Dodson then discussed the choices for the replacement of the lights on the outside of the farmhouse. There was discussion.

Bruce Dodson moved to approve the purchase of 4 lights from Restoration Hardware for the outside of the farmhouse, seconded by Peg Scofield. Unanimously passed.

There was discussion of the need of a string trimmer for the farm.

Tim Gannon moved to approve the purchase of a string trimmer for the farm, seconded by Peg Scofield. Unanimously passed.

Bruce Dodson moved to approve the purchase of the ornamental cherry laminate flooring for the hallway and the handicapped restroom in the farmhouse, seconded by Peg Scofield. Unanimously passed.

Bruce Dodson then showed the committee the drawing for the proposed handicapped ramp that has been prepared by Mike Fortuna. There was lengthy discussion. The committee will gather more information before it proceeds with the handicapped ramp.

Tim Gannon then stated that he had spoken to Mike Milano about the next phase of work to be done at the farm specifically getting power out to the stone barn and the pole barn and the new outside restroom. Mike mentioned to Tim that it would be a good idea to have the well drilled before any of the other trenching, etc. is done.

Peg Scofield moved that the committee approve the digging a new well as part of the approved restroom electrical and water plan, seconded by Robert Broach. Unanimously passed. Tim Gannon will get quotes for the project.

Bruce Dodson then showed a map of the farm which also showed the Platt Nature Center and the Welter property which is being purchased by the Killingworth Land Conservation Trust in June. He is working on trails that will connect the Platt Nature Center to the farm. There was discussion.

Adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cronin, Secretary