

MINUTES

Meeting of the Parmelee Farm Committee

Thursday July 3, 2014 – Town Hall

The following committee members were in attendance: Christine Cronin, Bruce Dodson, Linda Dudek, Tim Gannon, Karen Milano, Peg Scofield, and Guy Vecchitto

Absent: Robert Broach and Terry Doyle

Tim Gannon called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Tim welcomed Guy Vecchitto to the committee as its newest member.

Peg Scofield moved to accept the minutes from the meeting of June 5, seconded by Bruce Dodson. Passed. Linda Dudek, Karen Milano and Guy Vecchitto abstained.

Bruce reported that Nicko Franceschi-Hofman's Eagle Scout project has been completed. He made 10 benches which have been placed in and around the farm and the hiking trails. Eight are on the farm and 2 are located on the Welter property. He said that they look good and are a nice addition to the property. There was discussion.

Peg Scofield then stated that she had prepared a draft of the "Parmelee Farm Event Agreement". She distributed copies to the committee members for review. She explained that this is a generic form to be used for all events that happen at the farm. It will be modified as necessary in the future. There was lengthy discussion. Peg will prepare and distribute a new draft for committee members to review and then will pass it on to the first Selectman.

Peg then reported that there are two boys working at the farm this summer. They are there through a state funded programs that Cathy lino heard about. Peg has created a document called "Parmelee Farm Summer Job Expectations – 2014". The document gives information re: hours, time recording, who they report to what farm equipment they are to use, etc. She distributed it to the committee. There was lengthy discussion.

Tim Gannon then spoke about the policy for the locking of the restroom. There was lengthy discussion as to when the restrooms should be open. Bruce Dodson asked that the discussion be tabled for now.

Tim then discussed that Mike Milano had offered to donate the labor to construct a road to the pole barn. There was discussion. After Tim meets with Mike, he will report back to the group.

Tim will be meeting with the new building inspector, Jerry Russ, next week. They will be discussing what still needs to be done to get the pole barn to be building code compliant, so that the Certificate of Occupancy can be issued. Tim will report back to the committee on this after the meeting.

Karen then spoke about the Coventry Regional Farmers Market. She has made contact with one of the organizers. And will be setting up a meeting with her at the farm.

They are discussing the possibility of them doing a series of four “pop-up” markets at Parmelee. Karen invited any committee members who are interested to attend. Karen will update the committee after the meeting. She is still waiting to get a date and time.

Tim then gave a report on the first free concert at the farm held Sunday June 22. He said that there were about 70 people in attendance. The music was wonderful and a good time was had by all. The next concert will be Sunday July 27 from 3-6. Tim has already lined up a couple of groups for this concert. He is also looking to have a concert on Sunday August 17 and possibly one on September 14. All concerts would be on Sunday afternoon. Tim said it would be good if we could find a group to sponsor these concerts next year. An attendee at the first concert was Matthew Male who works at the Kate in Old Saybrook. He has offered to help Tim. There was discussion as to where would be the best place to hold these concerts. After lengthy discussion it was decided to hold the concerts at the back end of the pole barn. Tim showed the committee an ad for 10 x 15 pop-up tent which could be used at concerts and other events at the farm.

Bruce Dodson moved that the committee approve the purchase of 2 10' x 15' pop-up tents for use at events at the farm, seconded by Peg Scofield. Unanimously passed.

Tim then stated that the farm needs to purchase a trailer for the use of hauling materials around the farm. He showed the committee several examples. There was discussion. Tim will look around further.

Tim said that now we have our budget for the next year the top priorities should be as follows: 1. Finish the pole barn, 2. Get the parking lot done, 3. lighting for the trail to the middle school and 4. Get an estimate for building stage for the amphitheater. There was discussion.

Karen said that she will get an article to the Krier about the first free concert at the farm and at the same time announce the concert on August 17.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cronin

Secretary

