

Bolton Heritage Farm Commission
Regular Meeting
November 4, 2013, 2013

Minutes

The Bolton Heritage Farm Commission held its regular meeting on Monday, November 4, 2013 at the Notch Road Municipal Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Sandra Pierog, Vice Chairman Arlene Fiano, Ann Maulucci and Donna Phillips and alternate Larry Pesce. Also in attendance was Buildings and Grounds Supervisor John Butrymovich. Bolton Resident in attendance was Bonnie Massey and Kathy Aspinall.

1. Call to Order

Vice Chairman Arlene Fiano called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Corrections to October 7, 2013 minutes

Page 3, section 4 under new business, the third paragraph add “ideas” after Board of Selectmen. The sentence should read “Board of Selectmen ideas that would help the Commission run better and easier.”

2. Approval of minutes of October 7, 2013

A motion was made by Ann Maulucci, seconded by Donna Phillips to approve October 7, 2013 minutes as corrected. Motion was passed unanimously.

3. Unfinished Business

a. Farm Maintenance and Repair Projects

John stated he has been working on the Whip Grant. He also discussed with the Commission that Adam came out to the farm and gave the ok with all the planting. John and Adam fixed some netting on the tress and also added some soil to bury the plants deeper. John stated that only 2 trees need to be replaced and he will wait till the end of the winter. John also stated they only have the area closest to the wood line to finish up with mowing.

b. Update on Heritage Farm Fund

The grant was approved but the funds would not be dispersed until last year’s invoice came in.

c. CT Barns Grant 2013 Status-Milk Demolition Work

Nothing at This Time.

Chairman Sandra Pierog arrived.

d. Vibrant Communities Grant-Update on Report

Sandra stated that Ray told her the report was in; Sandra asked John he also said he had not heard anything yet.

e. **Update On Fund Raising**

Larry Pesce brought the Commission donations from his fruit and vegetable stand. Ann Maulucci stated she would take the donations to the bank. Sandra stated the Commission only has 11 packages of farm x-mas cards left. She suggested the Commission order more so they could be sold at the Winter Fair. The Commission agreed to have Donna speak with Brenda to order more in time for the holidays. Sandra also mentioned she had gone to the restaurant supply store and checked on prices for the hot coca. Sandra stated that 24 mugs should be ordered and they will have coca and candy canes in each mug to sell at the booth for the inter Fair.

f. **Policy for use of farm by organized groups**

Nothing at this time

g. **Student Commission Members**

Sandra stated she had a discussion with Kristen Heckt about adding a student/teacher to the Commission as a board member. Kristen thought that was a great idea and she suggested speaking with the Board of Education. Arlene also mentioned incorporating the Heritage Farm history into the curriculum. Larry suggested getting a teacher in the school system involved and maybe organizing a junior and a senior student from the high school to participate in the Commission. This way when the senior graduates they must nominate a junior to take his/her place, and a new junior would then be added to the Commission.

h. **Other**

Nothing at this time

4. **New Business**

a. **Heritage Farm Celebration 2014**

Arlene stated she sent Karen an email about star gazing at the farm in November. Larry asked about the Artillery school that would possibly be using the farm. Sandra stated all expenses would be paid by the Artillery school including water, portal-potties and the Commission would just be providing the farm. Sandra also stated the Commission would need approval from the board of Selectmen. Larry brought up the concern with the weather in April and it could possibly be very damp on the farm.

Arlene discussed sending a flyer home with the kids to purchase a pumpkin at Larry's farm and having a pumpkin carving contest held at the farm and having an entrance fee into the contest. Larry suggested having the event a few weeks before Halloween and giving out prizes to the winners. Arlene suggested promoting the event in early September. Arlene also suggested having a blue grass event held outside at the farm.

b. **Discussion of Future Repairs, Grant opportunities**

Sandra asked John what capital improvements expensive were going to be submitted as part of the next town budget. John said he had requested 25,000 for future repairs. Arlene asked if that money could be used for grants, Sandra replied it could be used

for matching grants if it stays in the budget. Sandra asked John when he does his operation if he could get the Commission some funds for postage money. Arlene also suggested getting some of the other groups and Commissions in town involved in events on the farm, for example the bird watching and June Trail days. She would like to find more ways to get people on the farm.

c. Friends of the Rose Farm Work Party Dates: 11/9

Work party coming up this Saturday. Sandra stated Richard Treat will be there bright and early at 8a.m. and all were welcome to participate.

d. Other

Larry mentioned a gentleman who was awarded a grant to come out and evaluate farms. The gentleman is still looking for a few more farms, the grant is an agro tourist specialist. Larry stated he is going call him in a couple of days and see if he can evaluate his farm as well as the Heritage Farm.

Larry also stated he would like to see the driveway from Meadow on the agenda at every meeting under new business to keep track of the progress.

Arlene and Donna requested that members bring a list of prioritized improvements to discuss at the December meeting.

5. Adjournment

A motion was made by Arlene Fiano, seconded by Donna Phillips to adjourn the meeting. Motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Corrine O'Brien
Board Clerk

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.