

Heritage Farm Commission
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2018

The Bolton Heritage Farm Commission held its regular meeting on April 2, 2018 at the Notch Road Municipal Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Arlene Fiano, Rhea Klein and Ann Maulucci. Beth Harney arrived at 7:10. Building and grounds supervisor John Butrymovich was also present as were Bolton residents Michael Sonntag and Mrs. Sonntag. Kathy Aspinall was not present.

1. Call to order

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

2. Approval of minutes of March 5, 2018

Under section 4a the first sentence should read "John reported that Security technologies began installing the fire panel upgrades and Frontier Communications installed the phone upgrades needed." Rhea made a motion to accept the minutes with the above corrections, seconded by Ann Maulucci. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Resident's Forum (Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda)

Michael Sonntag who is currently a Life Scout working to become an Eagle Scout came before the BHF Commission to discuss placing a weather station at the Heritage Farm. The weather station would send information to a widget on the town's website for everyone to view. Michael stated we would be speaking with Allen Jacques who does IT for the town and get some feedback. Michael stated he would be using a weather station made by Rain Wise which would run off solar power with a battery backup. The weather station will need internet; Michael wants to use a point to point Ubiquiti that would be able to transmit the weather to town hall. Beth asked Michael about the possibility of vandalism to the weather station and how he could try and prevent that. Michael stated that the weather station could be installed in a higher location to minimize possible problems; the Commission agreed that placing the weather station on top of the milk shed roof would be a safer location. Arlene informed Michael he would need to presentation to the BOS/First Selectmen, answer all of their questions and get permission for the installation. The Commission suggested that Michael create a spread sheet and a hand out for all the Selectmen that showed the maintenance of the weather station, any associated cost and replacement of equipment.

4. Correspondence

Arlene stated she received an email from Gwen Marrion, the Wickersham's have offered to cover the costs of replacing the existing old Rochambeau sign. Gwen is going to research replacing the sign.

5. Unfinished Business

A. Farm Maintenance, Repair Projects, Porch Update

John informed the Commission that in order to proceed with the porch restoration, Julie Carmelich has requested the porch be restored to match the existing structure. The corner brackets and posts will need to be reused, restored or recreated in order to put the porch back as is. These changes will need new prices/quotes. Arlene stated she would speak with Roger Barrett to get pricing for a final quote and pass that information to John. John also spoke with Todd Levine concerning digging the needed footings, Mr. Levine stated there should not be a problem, and he's going to speak with the state archaeologist, who has been on vacation, for permission.

John stated the alarm is in but they are still working on the punch list and there are still issues with the cell phone connection. John also informed the Commission he needs three quotes to paint the house and he only has two, he is currently working on the third.

B. Update on Fund Raising

Nothing at this time

C. Student/School Participation/Education Programs

Rhea mentioned starting up a sub-committee that would be more centralized and focus on educational program opportunities for the farm. She is going to reach out to different individuals and see if anyone is interested.

D. Future use of the Farm House

Nothing at this time

E. Policy for Use of the Farm by Organized Groups

Nothing at this time

F. Memorial Day/ Family Day Participation

No updates since the last meeting

G. 2020 Town Celebration

Arlene informed the Commission that the first organizational meeting will be held April 9th at 7PM at Town Hall.

H. 2018 Farmers Market Antique Truck Tractor Parade

Nothing at this time

I. Social Media/ Town Website Updates/ BHF Presentation/ Documentary

No updates since last meeting

J. Possible Shovel Ready Grant Projects

John stated there are a number of projects that may qualify for grants that are shovel ready.

- The ramp leading to the barn needs completed and needs to be ADA compliant
- Windows need re-glazing
- Getting portable water on site
- The house roof and rafter replacement
- The porch once replaced with need painted
- Replace sister joists and girders in the basement
- replace cellar/bulk head and stairs and kitchen stairs

K. Memorial Garden

A final draft of the memorial garden master plan has been presented to Sandra Pierog for review by the BOS and the Building and grounds committee.

L. Earth Day Planting

Ruth Hoffman and Arlene are working on a possible garden plan for the triangle area between the drive and Bolton Center Road. The Scouts have previous obligations for Earth Day and will not be available to help. Further planning is needed at this time.

6. New Business

A. Discussion of Future Grants, Repair Opportunities

Nothing at this time

B. Other

Arlene stated the Bolton Heritage farm and the town have been awarded a state Preservation Award from the CT Trust for Historic Preservation. Sara Nelson nominated the Farm/town. The award will be presented in Newtown, CT at the Edmumd town hall on April 5th, 2018. Sandra Pierog will be accepting the award. Congratulations to all.

7. Adjournment

Beth Harney made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ann seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 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.