

PARMELEE FARM COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2021

The regular meeting of the Parmelee Farm Committee was called to order by Chairman Tim Gannon in the Pond Room at the farm at 7:00 pm. The following members were present: Tim Gannon, Terry Doyle, Scott Hawkins, Guy Vecchitto, Peg Scofield, and Linda Dudek. Absent: Christine Cronin.

The minutes from November 5, 2020 were accepted as presented.

Peg reported that the 2021 event calendar is mostly full for the season.

Linda gave an update on the Artisan Market which will be held on September 11. She noted that the fee for the Lion's Club tent rental increased from \$400 to \$550. New vendor agreements (hold harmless agreements) have been requested from all vendors to protect the town and committee from liability.

Peg reached out to several members of the Land Trust for suggestions on improving areas of the trails. "Geo Grid" was suggested for areas where rocks and tree roots make hiking the trails difficult. Tim noted that some of the new signs and numbers have been installed on the trails. Scott reported that Athletic Brewing Company offers a grant, and he will work on completing the application. The grant funds can be used for the trail and work would be done by the Trails Association.

Tim purchased two new propane heaters like the ones the farm currently owns. The purchase of the heaters was approved last year.

Tim stated that construction for the greenhouse for the Shared Harvest Garden (approved last year) would begin. Kevin Gorman will move John Byrne's tractor over to the farm do the necessary groundwork with his tractor.

Tim contacted NEPPCO Painting Co. for a quote on power washing and painting the exterior and poles of the pavilion. The town will cover the cost of \$4,510 for the work. NEPPCO suggested painting the Azek trim due to the surface turning powdery after time. The committee expects to do that work next year. NEPPCO supplied a quote for that work of \$3,700.

Mary Solera requested more raised bed gardens for the Shared Harvest Garden. Mary has grant money (\$500) and Lion's Club financial assistance (\$400) to use toward the purchase of lumber. The lumber cost is \$980. Terry made a motion to cover the remainder of the lumber cost; seconded by Guy. Motion carried unanimously.

The string lights in the pavilion need replacing. Discussion on style and color took place. Terry moved to spend up to \$2000 on new string lighting; seconded by Guy. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim explained that John Byrne will use his tractor (renting it to the farm) for work in the garden area, driveway repair and moving topsoil. Terry made a motion to approve up to \$700 for the tractor rental; seconded by Guy. Motion carried unanimously.

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