

PARMELEE FARM COMMITTEE

Minutes

April 3, 2025

The regular meeting of the Parmelee Farm Committee was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Tim Gannon in the Pond Room at the Farm. The following members were present: Tim Gannon, Peg Scofield, Ken Wodatch, Guy Vecchitto, Terry Doyle, Eileen Blewett, Linda Dudek, and Richard Pleines. Absent: Chris Cronin, Karen Milano and Mike Greenaway. Guests: Kimberly Lombard and Nan Thomas from Beechwood Sun Community and Killingworth Public Works Director Chris Mello.

Tim introduced Chris Mello, who spoke to the committee about his willingness to help with projects at the farm, including filling areas in the driveway and assisting with mowing and brush trimming. The group thanked Chris for coming and offering to help us.

Kimberly Lombard informed the committee that Beechwood would like to improve two areas of their property that adjoin the trails. They are planning a clean-up day on May 21st. After discussion, Peg recommended they contact Andy Annino (KLT) for suggestions on what should or should not be done. Peg will provide Kimberly with emails for Andy and suggests a meeting with Andy and Karen or Guy so our committee will be informed.

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as presented. Financial reports were briefly discussed.

Projects: Rich has checked the HVAC system in the Pond Room and is checking for a new board that is defective. He will also check on the price of a new unit.

Discussion on curtains for the pavilion was tabled.

Linda reported that RD#17 transportation will provide a small bus again for the Artisan Market. She is still collecting fees from several vendors.

Tim noted that the Sugar House had a good year for maple syrup.

Ken said the Shared Harvest Garden group will begin work next week. He noted that Shared Harvest applied for a grant from the Middlesex Community Foundation and the funds would be available in July.

Committees: Linda reported that she had met with a State Inspector, Killingworth Sanitarian and Chris Mello to inspect the water system in the basement of the farmhouse and the rest room utility room. No water testing was done, but it seems all is in order.

Ken will be picking up the new gutter elbows for the pavilion and will install them.

Tim informed the committee that a vendor had submitted a quote to clean all the gutters on the farm and after a brief discussion he will check with the town hall to find out if this is something the town requested.

Eileen received a quote for power washing the pavilion floor. After a brief discussion, Eileen will seek additional quotes.

Linda will ask Chris Mello about filling in some areas with topsoil where tents for the market are set up.

Eileen called Anderson Septic Company and inquired about how often inspections need to be done. The recommendation was yearly. After discussion, Eileen will coordinate getting the system cleaned and have the pump alarm warning inspected to make sure it is working properly.

Tim reported that the security cameras are working, but occasional power outages have caused an interruption.

Eileen informed the group of budget discussions by the Board of Finance. There was a discussion.

Eileen gave the committee an update of planned events. She noted that Youth & Family Services have several events scheduled and Scott Struzinski has another concert planned for May 30th.

Linda reminded the committee that the Historical Society will hold its Annual Tag Sale on May 10th.

New Business: Recent winds caused the American flag and solar light to come off the pole. It will need to be checked to see if the pole is intact or needs to be replaced. Peg will contact Mike Cassella of Premier Stone Products to see if he will inspect it and make a recommendation.

Tim reported that the new box for a defibrillator is in the stone barn. There was discussion on the installation. Tim will check to see if the Town is installing the boxes in other town buildings and if they will also install the one for the farm on the east side of the restroom building.

Tim said the Chamber has not committed funds to the summer concerts. Peg made a motion to approve \$1,000.00 from the Activity Account for the first two concerts; seconded by Terry. Motion carried unanimously. Peg made a motion to approve \$1,000.00 from the Activity Account for the other two concerts, if the Chamber does not fund them; seconded by Terry. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda M. Dudek
Acting Secretary