

SOUTH WINDSOR AGRICULTURE, ARTS & NATURE CENTER COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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April 13, 2016

South Windsor Town Hall – Madden Room

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: John Caldwell, Park & Recreation Department
Mayor Tom Delnicki, Town Council
Stephanie Dexter, Planning & Zoning Commission
Mary Etter, Director of S. W. Public Library
Ray Favreau, Director of Parks & Recreation
Michele Lipe, Director of Planning
Tim Shepard, South Windsor Land Trust
Councilor Jan Snyder, Town Council
Betty Warren, IWA/CC

Members Absent: Pat Botteron, Open Space Task Force
Jeff Folger, Senior Environmental Planner
Katie Graham, Park & Recreation Commission
Sandy Jeski, SWALPAC
Virginia Macro, Historic District Commission
John Mitchell, Economic Development Commission
Andrew Paterna, South Windsor Food Alliance
Councilor Liz Pendleton, Town Council

5. Discussion items

1. Farming and functions of the Facility – crops/animals/classrooms-barn/community gardens and farmers market
2. Economic Development ideas – animals, cropland, scenic drive, barns, food cop-op
3. Architectural Assessment – farmhouse, barns, silo
4. Landscape Assessment – trees, plantings
5. Conceptual Development – Options for farm building s locations
6. Entrance and Exit roads at the farm

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ITEM:

5. Discussion items *(Continued)*

Ms. Lipe informed the Committee that the conservation easement being sought by Eversource Energy will be discussed at the Town Council meeting scheduled for the 18th. It will be suggested that a conditional easement be considered so it could be

renegotiated in the future if necessary.

Committee members discussed the two plans that were provided by the Consultant.

Mr. Shepard would like the Committee to consider having access on the north side of the poles so it will be offset from the traffic light.

Further discussions were held regarding the planning of the property. It was suggested that the community gardens be scaled down, entrance on Heritage be drawn in the plan for future consideration, reduced parking and holding the farmers market at a different location. The Committee stated they would like to develop this project in phases.

Phase I – Access road, house, barn closest to the residence.

Phase II – Community Gardens

Phase III – Barn in the rear of the property.

Mayor Delnicki informed the Committee that in order to raise funds there is a project to create a Solar Farm on Barber Hill Road which will produce \$114,000 per year. These funds will be administered by SWALPAC and will not go into the General Fund.

Committee members discussed possible events that could produce money to help fund this project.

Ms. Lipe questioned the Committee if a trail system on the property is still wanted? Committee members answered that they are. Ms. Lipe said she would inform the Consultants.

There is concerns about the structural stability of the house on the property. It was decided that this will be discussed with the Town Council to see if funds could be used through the Contingency account to stabilize the house.

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ITEM:

8. Adjournment

At 6:33 p.m. Mayor Delnicki made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Warren seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Council Clerk