

SOUTH WINDSOR AGRICULTURE, ARTS & NATURE CENTER COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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December 14, 2016

South Windsor Public Library – Board Room

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Pat Botteron, Open Space Task Force
Stephanie Dexter, Planning & Zoning Commission
Mary Etter, Director of S. W. Public Library
Ray Favreau, Director of Parks & Recreation
Jeff Folger, Senior Environmental Planner
Katie Graham, Park & Recreation Commission
Michele Lipe, Director of Planning
Andrew Paterna, South Windsor Food Alliance
Councilor Jan Snyder, Town Council

Members Absent: Councilor M. Saud Anwar, Town Council
John Caldwell, Park & Recreation Department
Mayor Tom Delnicki, Town Council
Sandy Jeski, SWALPAC
Virginia Macro, Historic District Commission
John Mitchell, Rotary Club
Councilor Liz Pendleton, Town Council
Tim Shepard, South Windsor Land Trust
Betty Warren, IWA/CC

3. Approval of Past/Meeting Minutes

None

4. Public Input

None

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ITEM:

5. Discussion items

Presentation to the SW Town Council - December 5, 2016 meeting

Chairman Paterna explained to the Committee that the Town Council will take a vote at the next Town Council meeting scheduled for December 19, 2016 on whether to endorse this project or not. The resolution will include putting the \$9,000 from the Eversource Easement towards the Priest property.

Search Grant Funding Applications and Fund Raising Programs in Planning for Phase I

Committee members reviewed page 14 which shows potential grant funding sources: Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, State Office of Historic Preservation, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, the 1772 Foundation, Historic New England Foundation, and South Windsor Community Foundation.

Secure the \$9,000 Eversource Easement fee for House Repairs

The farmhouse was secured with funding from the Town Council. Mrs. Lipe explained that \$11,500 has been used of the \$20,000. The Building Department could not give a permit for the lights because the lights have to be on the outside of the building when a house is boarded up. The Committee discussed beginning to map out the trails during the winter through the Planning Department. Chairman Folger explained that the trails will first be marked out and will not cost the Town any money initially. Chairman Folger informed the Committee that he would like to find the old grove. Mrs. Lipe said that another goal is to get a small parking area situated so people may park and walk the trails. Councilor Snyder requested that when the mapping is complete to please send to the Committee as well as surrounding neighbors.

Secure Town Council Input/Support to Continue the Project

Mrs. Etter informed the Committee that she had received a suggestion of making the Priest Farm a Hops Farm. Mr. Folger explained that the Department Agriculture has advertised open parcels and they are trying to get farmers interested in the open parcel to farm. Mr. Paterna stated that it could be advertised that the Town wants a certain type of crop grown on this property.

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ITEM:

5. Discussion items

Chairman Paterna stated that if anyone has any ideas where grants can be found, they can be added to the on-going list. Chairman Paterna then informed the Committee that he has been trying to get a hold of the Horticulturist from UConn who came out to visit for the pictures she took of the trees and bushes on the farm. In the spring, would like to tag trees and plants to see what could be cleared.

Involve Surrounding Neighborhood in Discussions

Committee members discussed holding a public informational meeting. It was decided that a meeting would be held on February 8, 2017. The meeting will be held at the EOC in the training room. A regular meeting of the Committee will be held at 6:00 p.m. and the public meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The public meeting will inform the neighbors what is happening at this property.

A Sub-Committee was formed that would look for grant funding for this project. The Sub-Committee will consist of Councilor Snyder, Ginny Macro, Chairman Paterna, Michele Lipe, Stephanie Dexter and Mary Etter.

The Committee then had a discussion regarding holding a logo contest. It was felt that the silo should be incorporated into the logo. Mrs. Lipe will work on setting up this contest and bring back suggestions for it to the next meeting.

6. New Business/Discussion Items

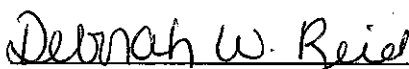
None

7. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017/SW Library-Friends Room

8. Adjournment

At 6:07 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Council Clerk