

SOUTH WINDSOR AGRICULTURE, ARTS & NATURE CENTER COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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April 11, 2018

South Windsor Public Library – Board Room

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Pat Botteron, Open Space Task Force
John Caldwell, Park & Recreation Department
Stephanie Dexter, Planning & Zoning Commission
Mary Etter, Director of S. W. Public Library
Ray Favreau, Director of Parks & Recreation
Jeff Folger, Senior Environmental Planner
Michele Lipe, Director of Planning
Andrew Paterna, South Windsor Food Alliance
Tim Shepard, South Windsor Land Trust
Councilor Jan Snyder, Town Council
Betty Warren, IWA/CC

Members Absent: Katie Graham, Park & Recreation Commission
Sandy Jeski, SWALPAC
Virginia Macro, Historic District Commission
John Mitchell, Rotary Club
Councilor Liz Pendleton, Town Council

3. Approval of Past/Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Lipe made a motion to approve the March 14, 2018 minutes. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Input

None

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5. Discussion items

Brush Clearing around Farmhouse

Mr. Caldwell informed the Committee that he met with Distinctive Tree Care LLC and there are approximately fifteen trees on the property that should come down which would cost the Town around \$12,000. Distinctive Tree Care LLC has proposed that the Town allow them to hold a "Demo Day" at the Priest Property on May 3, 2018, with a rain date of May 4, 2018. Demo Day would allow them to show off their new equipment which could also drum up some business for them. In exchange for the Town sponsoring the lunch, Distinctive Tree Care LLC will take care of the trees that need to be cut down at no further cost to the Town. Committee members felt that this would be a good opportunity and discussed the parking needs for this event. Mr. Caldwell said he would get a schedule and Distinctive Tree Care LLC would take care of the invitation. Mrs. Dexter stated that she would look into hiring a caterer for this event.

Mrs. Lipe stated that she would look into the \$9,000 owed to the Town for the easement.

Mr. Caldwell made a motion to allocate funds for a caterer at Demo Day on May 3rd or May 4th. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Paterna stated he would report this at the Town Council meeting.

Fencing along Property Line along Heritage Drive

Mrs. Lipe informed the Committee that a lot of items had been dumped along the property line near Heritage Drive. These items will need to be cleaned up, and a dumpster will need to be rented. Ms. Lipe suggested that a fence be erected along the property line so this would not happen in the future. Committee members discussed this and decided that the property would first be cleaned up and then it will be decided on whether a fence is necessary or not in the future and what type of fence is wanted.

Mrs. Lipe also explained that she had contacted Design Professionals to get a price for a site plan. Mr. Folger will flag the wetlands.

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ITEM:

5. Discussion items

Report on RFP for Historical Architect Bids/Proposals/Farmhouse

Mrs. Lipe reported that the Town received seven bids. A sub-committee should be established to review these and do interviews. Mr. Shepard and Councilor Snyder will be sitting on the sub-committee.

After further discussion, Mrs. Lipe stated that she would get a quote from Billy Mitchell for an environmental study and reiterated that she would look into the \$9,000 that was supposed to be put into the Priest Property account for the easement.

Review of "Walk-Through" with Potential Bidders for Farmhouse Grant

Mrs. Lipe explained that the walk-through went fine. The one question she wanted to bring back to the Committee was does the Committee want to restore the house back to original without the addition. The house was built in 1823, and Chairman Folger added that the addition was done within 50 years from the time the house was built. Mrs. Lipe explained that the interior might need to be updated for today's standards, so the focus is really on the exterior. Chairman Folger also stated that there are features inside the house that could be salvaged and sold to make money for this project.

Window Designs

Committee members discussed the window designs. Chairman Folger informed the Committee that all twenty-seven panels had been cut and primed. There have been guidelines established for artists to follow, as shown in attached **Exhibit A**. Chairman Folger felt that a sub-committee should be established that will review the submitted panels. Chairman Folger recommended that Mrs. Macro be part of the sub-committee and Mrs. Etter volunteered her services. Committee members decided that the end of July would be the deadline for submission of the panels. Mr. Favreau requested that when someone plans to pick up a panel, they call the Park & Recreation Department to arrange pick up. This would also allow the Committee to know who has which panel and a phone number to contact that person. Mrs. Lipe suggested that an unveiling is held when this project is complete, and Chairman Folger suggested that a sign is put up acknowledging the artists.

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6. New Business/Additional Discussion Items

Mr. Shepard questioned if the Farmer's Market would be able to meet the requirements for parking on the north side of the property? Mrs. Lipe stated that it was her understanding from the feasibility study that it was decided that the property would not be conducive for the Farmer's Market. Committee members discussed using the Barton property for the Farmer's Market.

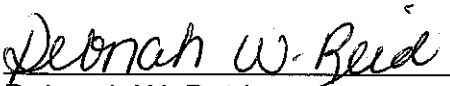
Deputy Mayor Paterna informed the Committee that he was contacted by the Lions Club who would like to make a donation towards the Priest Property project.

7. Next Meeting Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. at the South Windsor Public Library.

8. Adjournment

At 6:26 p.m. Mrs. Warren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deputy Mayor Paterna seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Deborah W. Reid
Council Clerk

Priest Farmhouse Windows Guidelines:

The Priest Farmhouse was built in 1823 and the farm was an operating dairy farm until the late 1980's. The Town of South Windsor purchased the house and surrounding property in 1998. Further information on the house and the project is located on the Town's website at:

www.southwindsor.org/priest-property-community-farm-project

Theme: Artwork that reflects the agricultural and historical heritage of South Windsor.

Review: Each applicant will submit a sketch or concept of the window or windows for review and approval by the SWAAN Review Committee.

Materials: The Town will supply a primed, plywood panel measuring approximately 2.5-foot by 5-foot to create your artwork on (each panel size differs somewhat to fit into a respective window). The panel is numbered, which corresponds to a numbered location on the house.

Since the panels will be subjected to the weather, we request that all artists use exterior grade paint, preferably latex.