

Brookside Farm Museum
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2020

Present: Gary Lakowsky, Chairman
Richard MacDonald
Robert Patterson
Robert Seifel
Cheri Meier

Absent: Maggi Prokop

Also Present: Chuck Massung
Joshua Taylor, Interim Curator

FILED

Aug 28 20 20 AT 11:00 AM/PM
William Helm
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

I. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Lakowsky called the August 26, 2020 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting to order at 7 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Mr. Lakowsky asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the July 22, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (1): Mr. Patterson moved to approve the July 22, 2020 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Meier (5-0) Unanimous.

III. REPORTS.

- a. Agenda Additions. There were no additions to the Agenda.
- b. Public Delegations. Ms. Massung was unable to be present, and there was no report.
- c. Ex-Officio. Mr. Cunningham was unable to be present, and there was no report.
- d. Curator. Mr. Taylor reported he has temporarily received and accepted a position at the Smithsonian Museum and will be leaving the area in the fall. He plans to leave a guide for the next Curator. He presented the Chairman with a list of his responsibilities.
- e. Chairman. Mr. Lakowsky reported four new 8' tables and 6 card tables were purchased. He suggested a permanent display case if we are able to secure the ledger of William Avery.

Mr. Lakowsky spoke to Victor Benni regarding construction being done in Niantic. Mr. Benni informed him it is an Eversource project to run gas to the Department of Corrections. Photos have been taken of how the area at the Brookside Farm Museum was before the construction trucks were on Brookside Farm property, and it will be restored when the work is completed. The work is expected to be completed in September.

Mr. Lakowsky reported the path to the woods was cleared of the trees damaged from the storm and need to be cut and stacked. A section of the fence was hit by a branch and needs to be replaced. Mr. Lakowsky was willing to replace the rail that was damaged.

- f. Financial.
 1. **Status Update.** Status Update. Mr. Patterson reported \$10,846.16 remains in the 2020 Brookside Farm Museum budget. It was noted utilities have been taken out.

2. **Presentation of Bills.** No bills were presented for payment.

3. **Barn Rental June 28, 2020.** Ms. Meier reported the June 28, 2020 rental went very well. The Historical Properties Commission Meeting went fine. The Puppetry meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month.

g. COLLECTIONS

1. Use of harrow September 19 and 20. Mr. Hobby informed Mr. Lakowsky the harrow may be used by the Kalals (representing the East Lyme Living Gardens) for the fields near the Baptist Church. They plan to grow fresh vegetables and give them to the needy. Mr. Patterson stated he wishes to photograph the pulling.

MOTION (2): ~~Mr. Patterson moved to allow the East Lyme Living Gardens to borrow the harrow on September 19 and 20, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Seifel. (5-0)~~
Unanimous.

h. CORRESPONDENCE No new correspondence was received.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Property Maintenance

1. **General Maintenance Report.** Mr. Lakowsky will replace the new rail.
2. **Trees.** Mr. Lakowsky spoke to Mr. Bragaw who asked the Finance Office if any money remains in the Brookside Farm Museum 2019 budget. There was \$2800 left and Mr. Bragaw will use it for removal of the two trees at the beginning of the lane. A crane will be needed to cut them down. The remaining trees will be cut down at a later date.

b. MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Lakowsky received an email from Mr. Reed, the archeology teacher who would like to find the ice house and work at Brookside Farm Museum if possible, at springtime. Mr. Lakowsky would also like to bring classes studying history during the house's time period to the house.

c. UPCOMING EVENTS

Mr. Lakowsky asked Commission members to share ideas on exhibits for the house. Mr. Lakowsky suggested a tool exhibit. He also suggested music through the ages.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

1. **Back Porch, Painting.** Mr. Lakowsky contacted 18th Century Builders and DNL to rebid the back-porch repairs. To date he has not received any response.

b. MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT There was no further discussion on this matter.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (3): Ms. Meir moved to adjourn the August 26, 2020 Brookside Farm Museum Meeting at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Seifel (5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

