

Brookside Farm Museum  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 23, 2020

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

Absent: Robert Seifel

Also Present: Donna and Chuck Massung, Friends of the Brookside Farm Museum

FILED  
Sept 29 2020 AT 8:15 AM/PM  
Kunthelm  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**I. CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lakowsky called the September 23, 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 August 26, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

The following correction was noted: On page 3, Motion 3, Ms. Meier's name was misspelled.

**MOTION (1): Ms. Meier moved to approve the August 26, 2020 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Ms. Prokop. Ms. Prokop abstained from voting. (4-0-1) Motion carried.**

**III. REPORTS.**

- a. Agenda Additions. There were no additions to the Agenda.
- b. Public Delegations. Ms. Massung had nothing new to report at this time.
- c. Ex-Officio. Mr. Cunningham was unable to be present, and there was no report.
- d. Curator. Mr. Taylor resigned to take a position at the Smithsonian.
- e. Chairman. Mr. Lakowsky will look into a meeting place for the October 28 and November 18 meetings.

Mr. Lakowsky reported the Historical Properties Commission requested that a commission member of the Brookside Farm Museum be a permanent member of its Commission. Ms. Prokop agreed to accept that responsibility.

**MOTION (2): Ms. Meier moved to nominate Ms. Prokop as a permanent member of the Historical Properties Commission. Seconded by Mr. MacDonald. (5-0) Unanimous.**

Mr. Lakowsky stated he purchased the fence rail from a preapproved Purchase Order.

Mr. Lakowsky informed the Commission on October 7 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. there will be a virtual Open House and Steps Reunion. Ms. Massung agreed to attend.

- f. Financial.

1. **Status Update.** Status Update. Mr. Patterson reported \$10,746.44 remains in the 2020-21 Brookside Farm Museum budget as of September 21.

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

**g. COLLECTIONS**

1. **William Avery Ledger.** Ms. Massung reported the Friends have acquired the William Avery Ledger for the Brookside Farm Museum. Ms. Sasso would like to do a blog on it. Mr. Littlefield would like to write an article in the Post Road Review on it. Mr. Lakowsky would like to see a permanent display of it in the house. He suggested having an Open House after it is displayed.

**MOTION (3): Ms. Prokop moved to accept the William Avery Ledger into the permanent collection of the Brookside Farm Museum. Seconded by Mr. Patterson. (5-0) Unanimous.**

Since it is old and fragile, it was suggested that photos be taken of each page for insurance purposes, as well as for visitors to see.

**h. CORRESPONDENCE** Mr. Patterson reported in June we had girls cleaning the barn for their community service. We were asked for a statement of their work. Mr. Patterson typed a letter of recognition. He spoke to a Mom about the possibility of their doing future work.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Property Maintenance**

1. **General Maintenance Report.** Mr. Lakowsky agreed to check on the water heater.
2. **Trees.** Mr. Lakowsky spoke to Mr. Bragaw regarding tree removal. The Finance Office approved \$2800 from last year's Brookside Farm Museum budget to be used for removal of dead trees on the house grounds.

**b. MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT**

There was no discussion on museum development.

**c. UPCOMING EVENTS**

There was no discussion on upcoming events.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

1. **Back Porch, Painting.** Mr. Lakowsky contacted three contractors to rebid on the back-porch repairs. To date he has not received any response from B&L, the third contractor was too busy. 18<sup>th</sup> Century Builders came to the house and agreed to give a quote. The town has set aside money for painting to be done in the spring.

**b. MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT**

1. **Lisa Marcinkowski Dissertation Research Paper.** Ms. Meier received information from Ms. Marcinkowski who completed her analysis of her Brookside Farm dissertation. She would like to share the photo of her analysis with the Commission. Ms. Marcinkowski will contact Mr. Lakowsky to set up a meeting date. Ms. Meier suggested contacting Historical Properties, the Samuel Smith House and the Lee House to see if they wish to attend. Mr. Lakowsky agreed to set up a meeting date with Ms. Marcinkowski.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION (3): Ms. Meier moved to adjourn the September 23, 2020 Brookside Farm Museum Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Prokop (5-0)  
Unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary**