

Brookside Farm Museum  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 24, 2021

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

FILED

Absent: Richard MacDonald  
Robert Seifel

March 30, 20 21 AT 12:57AM (PM)  
Brookside Farm ATC  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Also Present: Donna and Chuck Massung

**I. CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lakowsky called the March 24, 2021 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Mr. Lakowsky asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the February 24, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION (1): Ms. Meier moved to approve the February 24, 2021 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Prokop. (4-0) Unanimous.**

**III. REPORTS.**

a. Agenda Additions. Mr. Lakowsky asked if there were any Agenda additions.

**MOTION (2): Mr. Patterson asked that under New Business, item 3. April 17 Clean Up Day be added to this evening's Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Prokop. (4-0) Unanimous.**

b. Public Delegations. Ms. Massung had nothing new to report.

c. Ex-Officio. Mr. Cunningham was unable to be present, and there was no report.

d. Curator. Messrs. Patterson and Lakowsky received a resume from an individual who has expressed interest in being Curator of the Brookside Farm Museum. Mr. Patterson suggested checking NEMA's job listings and CLHO's Who's looking for Who.

e. Chairman. Mr. Lakowsky reported the preservation group did not meet at the Brookside Farm Museum last night.

Ron Bence and Mr. Lakowsky met at the Brookside Farm Museum to repair the leaking window. Mr. Bence found some holes, cleaned and caulked them. Mr. Lakowsky took the curtains down and Ms. Lakowsky cleaned them. It was felt all the other curtains in that room should be taken down and cleaned. Mr. Lakowsky cleaned the shade and sashing and put it back up. Mr. Lakowsky checked this afternoon and did not see any more leaking. He also checked the upstairs windows and did not find any leaking.

He informed the Commission a couple of trees fell in the driveway. He cut them up and removed them from the road. He will cut the pine tree.

- f. **Financial.**
  - 1. **Status Update.** Mr. Patterson reported there is \$10,174.90 remaining in the Brookside Farm Museum budget.
  - 2. **Presentation of Bills.** No bills were presented.
  - 3. **2021-22 Budget.** Mr. Lakowsky reported he has not received any information on this Commission's 2021-2022 budget nor on a budget hearing date.
- g. **COLLECTIONS.** Mr. Lakowsky plans to meet with Paul McMasters to go over the paperwork needed for the books he and his wife donated to the house.
- h. **CORRESPONDENCE.** There was no correspondence received. Mr. Lakowsky felt the museum's emails should be checked. Ms. Massung agreed to check them.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Property Maintenance**
  - 1. **General Maintenance Report.** The window leak has been repaired. Mr. Lakowsky checked on the barn and did a general clean up. On April 14 Mr. Patterson, Mr. Massung and Mr. Lakowsky will clean up the barn and do a property walk through in advance of April 17 cleanup day. He spoke to Mr. McMasters about getting rid of the stones and he agreed to remove them.
  - 2. **Trees.** Only one tree remains to be cut. We need to assure there is money in the budget for it.
  - 3. **Porch Railing.** Mr. Lakowsky spoke to Paul MacMasters about installing a railing for the porch. Mr. McMasters estimates the cost for the railing to be \$100-\$200. It needs to be ADA approved. Mr. Lakowsky felt the large stone in that area needs to be removed and either pea stone or sod can replace it. Ms. Massung suggested using sod.

**MOTION (3): Mr. Patterson moved to spend up to \$150 for the railing. Seconded by Ms. Prokop. (4-0) Unanimous.**

Mr. Lakowsky will speak to Ron Bence about painting the porch railing.

- b. **MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT.** There was no discussion at this time.
- c. **UPCOMING EVENTS**
  - 1. **Clean up Day** will be held on April 17, with a rain date of April 24. The Lions and Leos have agreed to help.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.**
  - 1. The house painting will be scheduled in the spring.

2. Split Rail fence. Mr. Lakowsky went to the Town Hall to determine whether or not permits will be needed for the split rail fence. He was informed as long as it does not exceed 6', no permits are needed. We do need to call before we dig, because there are gas and water lines in that area and they need to be marked. Mr. Lakowsky discussed digging the holes. He stated Parks and Recreation has a pole digger.

Mr. Lakowsky spoke to John Wilson of Signcraft and he suggested that Willie Wilson dig the holes. A variance from the road will be needed. Mr. Lakowsky suggested putting it in far enough so that cars could park in front of the fence. We will need a gate or to remove one section. Two or three quotes will be needed for the material needed for the fence. Mr. Lakowsky will take better measurements in order to determine how much fencing will be needed.

3. Clean-up Day. Mr. Lakowsky has arranged for the Lions and Leos to help on April 17 (Clean-up Day). Mr. Lakowsky, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Massung will do a walk through on April 14 and make a list of what needs to be done. Mr. Lakowsky feels some reseeding is needed. Mr. Lakowsky will ask Mr. Putnam if he has seeds he no longer needs that he is willing to give to the Commission.

**b. MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT**

1. ELHS Anthropology Class Research Ice House Starting October 6. Mr. Lakowsky received an email from Will Reed about his class researching the ice house beginning on October 6. Mr. Lakowsky felt this would be good publicity for the house. Mr. Patterson would like additional information on it. Mr. Patterson asked what happens with any of their findings? Mr. Lakowsky stated it remains at the house.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION (4): Ms. Prokop moved to adjourn the March 24, 2021 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Meier. (4-0) Unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Frances Gherzi, Recording Secretary**