

Brookside Farm Museum
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2022

FILED

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

Jan 27, 20 22 AT 2:49 AM/PM
Brookside Farm Museum
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Also Present: Donna Massung, President of the Friends
Dan Cunningham, Ex-officio

I. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Lakowsky called the January 26, 2022 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Mr. Lakowsky asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the November 17, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (1): Mr. MacDonald moved to approve the November 17, 2021 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Seifel. Ms. Meier abstained from voting. (4-0-1) Motion carried.

Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of December 7, 2021. Mr. Lakowsky asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Special Meeting Minutes of December 7, 2021.

MOTION (2): Ms. Prokop moved to approve the December 7, 2021 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 reported the Christmas decorations need to be taken down. The Commission agreed to meet on February 12, 2022 at 10 a.m. to take the Christmas decorations down.
- c. Ex-Officio. Mr. Cunningham reported the American Rescue Funds Committee has been formed. They will make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. He suggested that this Commission make known to them its needs.
- d. Curator. Mr. Lakowsky reported the Connecticut League of Historical Organizations and NEMA will charge nominal amounts to advertise for a Curator or open positions.

Mr. Lakowsky has one individual who is very qualified and interested in the Curator position.

- e. Chairman. Mr. Lakowsky reported he has received a letter of resignation as of December 31, 2021 from Robert Patterson

Mr. Lakowsky agreed to speak to the First Selectman about two vacancies on this Commission. If anyone has a recommendation, he asked that they give the name to the First Selectman's Office. Ms. Meier stated she has recommended an individual to be considered.

Ms. Meier felt the Brookside Farm Museum website needs to be updated. Mr. Lakowsky reported Mr. Massung is looking into the Connecticut League of Historical Organizations grant in the amount of \$3,000. We have paid our dues to NEMA

Mr. Lakowsky had nothing new to report on the painting.

He informed the Commission the heat for the downstairs bathroom was not working. An electrician found the thermostat for that bathroom is in the office area. It is now working well.

Mr. Lakowsky discussed Steven Mark Hamilton's drawings of the house. Ms. Meier suggested having them professional framed. Ms. Meier agreed to check on frames.

f. Financial.

1. Status Update. Mr. Lakowsky had no update on the current budget.
2. Presentation of Bills. There were no new bills presented.
3. 2022-2023 Budget. Mr. Lakowsky has not been given a date for this Commission's Budget Hearing.
4. Barn Rental Fees. Mr. Lakowsky reported we have been approached by a painting group and a writers' group who wish to meet in the barn. These groups would like to have one-to-two-hour meetings and will only be using the barn. He felt we could charge them a fee per person, per meeting. Mr. Cunningham suggested checking into the insurance policy for Brookside Farm Museum to determine if it covers you when you charge for a rental. Mr. Lakowsky suggested requesting a donation instead from these groups.

Ms. Meier suggested charging more for a large event. Mr. Cunningham suggested checking with Parks and Recreation on their increase in fees for the pavilion and tent. Mr. Lakowsky did not feel a non-profit group should be charged but that they be required to clean up afterwards.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (3): Mr. MacDonald moved to adjourn the January 26, 2022 Brookside Farm Museum Regular Meeting at 8:00 p.m. due to a medical emergency. Seconded by Mr. Ms. Meir. (5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary