

Wakeman Town Farm

July 19, 2017 Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present: Amy Ancel, Bill Constantino, Alice Ely, Lisa Finn, Liz Milwe, Ilene Mirkine, Eve Pensak, Robin Tauck, Kathy Oberman Tracy

1. Summer Programs

Summer programs are in full swing with week 2 underway. Camps and apprentice programs are going well: kids are happy and engaged and counselors are very helpful.

2. Gardens

The gardens are getting into good shape. We have a solid group of volunteers doing weeding and other chores. Watering is also going well. A Senior Agricultural student has volunteered and is doing an outstanding job handling the composting. The bins are all organized and he turns them weekly. Plants are being identified and tagged around the farm. This is great for visitors who want to know more about what they see as they walk around.

3. Animals

The animals are being cared for by a core group of very dedicated and responsible volunteers. Their training and the chore process will serve us well to ease some burden and provide backup for a new steward. Two rabbits, three goats and several chickens were re-homed. We will be taking steps to replace some of them with new animals as we move forward. The animal care sub-committee is working to develop a comprehensive set of animal acquisition and care guidelines.

4. Farm Director

All top applicants toured the farm, community room and farmhouse. They also met with members of the selection committee and answered a common set of questions. The top three candidates then gave a presentation to Town Officials and representatives of the selection committee to further evaluate their skills.

5. Kitchen Management

We are happy to be back at the farm and able to have a committee meeting in our new community room. We will have regular meetings here going forward. A lot of chefs and other individuals have expressed interest in teaching and/or utilizing this special kitchen facility. A part-time, paid position of Kitchen Coordinator will manage the new facility for now. We will set up a kitchen sub-committee to work on structuring the use of the kitchen along with the Coordinator.

6. Other

August 7th is the cutoff for announcements to be submitted to Parks and Rec for publication with their fall offerings.