

Wakeman Town Farm

October 11, 2021 Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present In Person: Amy Ancel, Anne Burmeister, Bill Constantino, Alice Ely, Lisa Finn, Liz Milwe, Judy Sloan, Jaime Smith

Others Present In Person: Ryan Brunelle, Nicole Gerber, Ellen Goldman, Jennifer Montoni, John Montoni,

Others Present via Telephone: Sharon Broza-Stone

1. Animal Update

All of our animals recently had a full check-up and everyone is in good health. Wakeman Town Farm's two goats, Marshall and Chase, were recently re-homed to a goat-scaping company where they will continue to lead a productive life of weed management. This change may provide partnership opportunities to further manage our own property in the future and to re-think our animal acquisition strategy.

2. Farm Stand Update

Wakeman Town Farm is nearing the end of another successful season for our farm stand. We've seen lots of repeat customers this year and flowers continue to be in high demand. This year we formed a unique partnership with Kneads Bakery in Westport whereby we supplied them with apples grown at the Farm. They created delicious pastries from our apples that were then sold at our farm stand as well as at their shop. We look forward to continuing this collaboration and perhaps expanding it to other fruits grown on our property.

3. Monday Evening Learning Lectures

The Farm has revived our Monday evening lecture series, mostly on Zoom, allowing the community to learn from our broad range of experts in the comfort of their homes. Upcoming talks include learning about end of season garden chores from "Putting The Garden to Bed - The Pollinator Friendly Way", an author talk about *Bicycling With Butterflies* by Sara Dykman recounting her solo experience bicycling the 10,000 mile monarch butterfly migration route, as well as a panel on the environmental impacts of leaf blowers.

4. Town Visitors

Wakeman Town Farm hosted the Westport Board of Finance and the candidates for Westport Selectperson for a visit and tour of the Farm.

5. Community Partnerships

Building partnerships in our community continues to be a priority for Wakeman Town Farm and we aim to foster work that is important to our partners, as well as the Farm. We recently received a lifesaving gift of a new AED machine generously donated by DOCS Medical Group. Collaborations

going into 2022 include activities with Patagonia (environment), Freudigman & Billings (education), Earth Animal (animal care) and BMW (energy efficiency). In addition, this holiday season, the Farm will be participating in Giving Tuesday and the Westport Downtown Association tree-decorating program.

6. Holiday Lighting Event – Friday December 3rd at 4:30 pm

After missing out last year we are very excited to welcome everyone back to the Farm where we'll light up the Wakeman Tree with fellow Westporters to kick off the season. It's a festive, fun and free event for the whole family. In addition to the bonfire, roasting marshmallows and serving up hot cocoa and cookies, we're featuring a variety of local school musicians playing some holiday favorites.

7. Committee Members

The Wakeman Town Farm Committee would like to thank our outgoing committee members Ilene Mirkine and Terri Piekara for their time, dedication and numerous contributions to the Farm. We are also pleased to welcome new committee members Nicole Gerber, Danna Rogers and Haley Schulman to the Wakeman Town Farm family.