

Wakeman Town Farm Full Committee Meeting
April 03, 2023

Committee Members Present: Nicole Gerber, Amy Ancel, Anne Burmeister, Alice Ely, Judy Sloan, Liz Milwe, Jaime Smith, Lisa Finn, Paul Rossi, Bill Constantino, Susan Schmidt, Haley Schulman

Others Present: John Montoni, Sharon Broza-Stone, Christy Colusardo, Ellen Goldman

Secretary: Nicole Gerber

Barn Update

- The Committee continues to fundraise for the project and plans to approach the Town to discuss financing the project
- Reviewed rendering of proposed updates to barn
- Meeting with Donna Douglass week of April 10th to make sure proposed updates are within historic landmark parameters
- Using reclaimed materials for siding and roof
- Met with the Town to review plans and get approvals
- Bidding process has not begun
- Project being considered for ARPA funding

Education Update

- Spring classes underway
- Added more mommy + me to late Spring
- Jr Farmers camp almost at capacity
- Green Teen camps filling up
- First grade field trips, 22 science classes to mirror current elementary school curriculum
- Accepted 13 high school interns for the spring
- Backyard Chicken Keeping classes going well
- Do's and Don'ts of Gardening lecture sold out
- Lamb Socials are a HUGE success

Events Update

- Tim's Kitchen has been very busy hosting dinners, fundraisers, private parties and weekly classes
- Raffle tickets still available for leaf blower (\$20/ticket)
- New Farm event Drinking with Chickens on May 23, combo of cocktail class, live music, fun food and chickens \$125/ticket. Almost sold out.
- Private rentals are busy
- Mother's Day flowers with Sarah Shaw Designs
- Monthly Tony's Pizza + Wine Nights starting in June
- Looking in to doing children's classes (yoga or singing) on Saturdays during the summer

Farm Report

- All AED batteries have been updated
- Looking to upgrade one of the two AED machines on the property
- Looking to add a third AED machine to down by the animal barns
- Adding an exterior camera to the entrance of the Farm
- Mulching around trees and barn completed
- Sprout house sprouting
- Eggs in incubator, looking to increase our flock
- Town coming out in the Spring to replace rotted trim and touch up peeling paint
- Hoping to add ducks
- Sprinklers are up and running
- Repaired water fountain
- Bids are in to add sprinklers across the street
- Fencing inside the Farm is about to begin
- Bees survived the winter
- Received a \$500 grant from Westport Garden Club to put towards an all terrain wheel chair
- Looking to electrify the Farm's tools
- Farm Stand starts June 10

Pond Project Update

- Phase 1 underway
- LandTech proposed a planting plan
- Alice Ely and volunteer master gardener teams in August 2023 to do an update to the invasive species mapping from August 2018
- Water testing to happen late spring with high school interns and LandTech

Earth Week Update

- April 20th Earth Week Talk Brid Craddock "Gardening in Deer Country"
- April 22nd hosting Staples SLOBS and their fathers to work in the gardens
- April 22nd announcing the winner of the electric leaf blower raffle