

Wakeman Town Farm Full Committee Meeting
October 2, 2023

Committee Members Present: Nicole Gerber, Paul Rossi, Liz Milwe, Alice Ely, Amy Ancel, Lisa Finn, Jamie Smith, Judy Sloan

Others Present: John Montoni, Jennifer Whittle, Natalie Glidden, Sean Fitzpatrick

Secretary: Nicole Gerber

Fundraising + Events Update

- Oktoberfest Biergarten is scheduled for Sunday, October 15th. The event is sold out. We are still looking for a few more volunteers.
- This year's Giving Tuesday campaign will focus on fundraising for the barn renovation project
- Freudingman + Billings is renewing their Education sponsorships for 2024
- Press release announcing the completion of Phase 1 of the Pond Restoration project, and Patagonia's sponsorship, is going out mid-October

Farm Report

- The gardens are winding down for the season. The farmers are in the process of drying flowers, gourds and herbs for use in fall classes
- Phase 1 of the Pond Restoration Project will be completed by the end of the month
- Continued soil amendments and planting for next spring has begun in the new garden across the street from the Farm.
- Alice Ely is working with the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) to complete a pollinator identification signage project. A small grant for this project was awarded to the Farm. We are looking for a sponsor to underwrite the remaining costs for this project.
- The peach trees have been pruned
- We are building a Little Free Seed Library where residents can exchange seeds and borrow books on gardening. The Library will be listed on a national registry of little free libraries. The Farm is finalizing a sponsorship for this project.

Volunteer Update

- The Farm is recruiting volunteers to help with event planning, fundraising and other areas of need
- The Farm is especially looking for adults to take on leadership roles
- The Farm is looking to bring on an educator to help plan and run the high school senior internship program in the spring

Barn Project Update

- Waiting to hear back from the Town on whether or not we will receive a loan to cover 50% of the project cost

- Phil Cerrone is in the process of finishing up the final designs
- Bill Constantino and John Montoni met with Planning & Zoning at the end of September to review the plans
- Judy Sloan is finalizing new history banners
- A rendering of the renovated barn is being printed and will be placed by the barn for Farm visitors to see