

From: [Perillie, Michelle](#)
To: [Trianovich, Amanda](#)
Subject: Fw: Support for WTF Barn Renovation
Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 3:04:10 PM

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From: Christy Colasurdo <info@wakemantownfarm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:41:44 PM
To: Perillie, Michelle <mperillie@westportct.gov>
Subject: Support for WTF Barn Renovation

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Hi! My name is Christy Colasurdo and I'm the longtime Events Director at Wakeman Town Farm. I could write a long and colorful letter that regales you with the stories of how wildly successful our events and programs have become, but all you need to do is peruse our Instagram feed and look at the pictures of this past Sunday's sold-out Family Beer Garden, with more than 800 young families in attendance, to know that we are growing a strong sense of community at the Farm.

The renovated WTF barn is going to be yet another asset to the Town, one that we have worked hard to raise more than \$200,000 to build. It is not our asset, however. All improvements are being made to a Town-owned property. In other words, we have worked hard to create something and have put our money where our mouths are to indicate our commitment to a property that only benefits the town. Yet again, our team has demonstrated a serious good faith interest into making the property at 134 Cross Hwy, Westport CT into a truly unique space for the entire community. We host an impressive array of classes and serve every facet of the community, from tots to teens to seniors to families to lifelong learners. We also serve underserved neighbors to neurodiverse youngsters to adults with special needs. By approving the barn project, you are voting to make yet another building available for community events that enhance education and history and serve as a town gathering space with a mission to educate and inspire. As it is, all our programs sell out, and we are bursting at the seams. By renovating a dilapidated old barn and restoring it with care, we are preserving history, adding more space to serve town residents and enhancing a town property. And we've raised the bulk of the funds to make it a reality. It's a good thing for all! We hope you agree.

Thanks for your time.

Best,

Christy Colasurdo
Sent from my iPhone