

From: [Nancy Plotkin](#)
To: [Planning and Zoning](#); [Perillie, Michelle](#)
Subject: Support of Wakeman Town Farm Barn Renovation and Expansion
Date: Monday, October 28, 2024 11:03:57 AM

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To the Planning and Zoning Commission,

My name is Nancy Plotkin and I write to you in support of the 134 Cross Highway: Appl #PZ-24-00356 to add to, renovate and update the current barn at Wakeman Town Farm, owned by the Town of Westport.

I have been a Westport resident for 16 years. Both of my children volunteered at the farm during their high school years and learned important life skills from their experiences. I recently became a volunteer at the Farm—volunteering at Harvest Fest, assisting weekly at one of the child/caregiver classes, and participating at committee meetings.

Wakeman Town Farm provides an invaluable public service to our community by teaching visitors of every age about sustainable practices. We are lucky to have such a gem here in Westport. However, the farm urgently needs an indoor space that provides a dedicated, comfortable, safe area for community gatherings if the weather is not conducive to being outside.

Currently the only indoor space available at The Farm is Tim's Kitchen. It is a beautiful space but the farm needs a multipurpose space, with larger capacity, to meet its growing needs. More specifically, renovation of the barn will allow Wakeman Town Farm to hold day camp on rainy, or too hot, days and to have indoor programming for children and adults during the winter months in inclement weather. Importantly, the renovated barn will also provide the farmers with a sprout house to raise heirlooms from seed during the winter and safely store the farm's harvested food and farm equipment.

The proposed new design of the barn will maintain its current charm, while enabling Wakeman Town Farm to offer its dynamic programming throughout the year. The farm, and the residents of Westport, will benefit greatly from this renovation!

Please vote in favor of 134 Cross Highway: Appl. #PZ-24-00356. Thank you for your consideration.

Many thanks in advance,
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