

## Lachat Town Farm Commission Meeting

### Meeting held on Zoom

The number to be included for the meeting will be sent to any of the public who wants to attend by contacting Anita Dinwoodie at [anita.dinwoodie@gmail.com](mailto:anita.dinwoodie@gmail.com)

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Presentation by Stefan Garbee of his system to transform food waste into a food source.

Introduce new Commission member: Kirby Brendsel

A. Call meeting to order

Approval of the April 7, 2020 minutes

B. Financial Report - Carol Baldwin – update on 2020

C. Committee Review:

Discussion on COVID regulations at the farm for future gathering

*Facility Committees:*

1. *Community Garden and Children's Garden/Greenhouse* - Kat McConnaughey , Terry Cho
  - a. Terry discuss increasing the CG garden to include more produce to give to worthy causes such as CHIP in Bridgeport which feeds children who don't get to eat on the weekends
  - b report on Christina Koether's help at the CG and the grants she has applied for
2. *Farmhouse/Building Committee /Garage apt./Machine Shop/Barn*
  - a. machine shop cleanout continues - **need to relocate the antiques in the corner of the machine shop (Carol where would you like them put?) Furniture should go back in the house since we can't gather for probably a while longer.**
  - b. need to put supplies for each area in each area – **need a hammer and smaller nails for hanging in the barn on many occasions – where are the utensils that were purchased by Michelle Fracasso for the farm? Need towel paper, sponges and a bucket in Barn and plastic bags for debris that isn't put in the compost.**
  - c. septic system - purchase of split rail fencing to create barrier to driving across the grass - use the same fencing that will be used on the children's garden and the goat's back yard so there is a similar look everywhere. Do we want that fencing? - **Not a priority right now**
  - d. **Is doing LVL beams in machine shop a priority at this point? Need this done before new building goes up. Can this be part of the project?**
  - e. Ed - report on goat house progress – volunteer to do the roof will start when? Shall we order fencing and worker bees to put the fence in now? Michelle offered Chris's help. Ellen and Michelle will measure for the fencing. soon
  - f. need workdays for putting up shelves in garage apartment, seeding areas of lawn in April and May (proposal coming from Juan Robles to do work), cleaning out the first bay of garage and putting anything not needing warmth into the machine shop
  - g. Steve Wilson repairs to the barn to fulfill 1772 Grant – Will be starting in about a week. Permit being signed by Dominic Esposito.
  - h. decisions on finishing up the farmhouse floors, doors, and anything else that hasn't been finished. List from Max would be good.
3. *Grounds Committee - Stirling Collins*
  - a. Kevin Manea has been made foreman of the student crews who will be helping at the farm for this school vacation timeframe and throughout the summer.
  - b. Discuss another workday - need upper field work - cut logs cut into fireplace length and brought down to main wood pile; also logs in lower field need to be made smaller
  - c. discuss painting the enter and exit signs for a more professional look- green with white lettering? Checked with Debra and she will find a font for doing the signs – no

response

- d. **Stirling - decision on cedar posts and how they will be used and where to put them permanently until they are used.**
- e. **discuss where new Brian Gordon garden will be - volunteers for putting out cardboard and Peter Shih cutting flower garden**

4. *Farm Committee - Production Garden/Greenhouse - Terry Cho*

- a. Still need compost managers
- b. Gas heater is up and running in the greenhouse - Terry plans for seedlings?
- c. discuss what's needed to help the new production garden

**Operations Committees:**

5. *Program Committee: Anita Dinwoodie and Lily Burns*

- a. update on programming
- b. signage needed for any events or programming
- c. programming on the website for the year
- d. **Discuss change in size of Weston Arts programming, sculpture, exhibit, cocktails and Canvases, High School Art -Show and Juried Art Show - we won't be able to have until Town says we can**

6. *Fund-Raising and Events Committee:*

- a. *Finalize* idea of having a membership for the farm - work on format
- b. Need to send Weston Progress Fund financial summary for Goat House when applicable
- c. Discuss private events at the farm - Rules and Regulations, pricing and parking
- d. Add logo wear to the website?
- e. **Stirling update on grant for garage apartment - project needs to be done before the new building starts to go up**

7. *PR/Outreach Committee*

- a. create list of events that can be published in a new membership program letter

8. *Farmers Market Committee: - Anita Dinwoodie*

- Will we be able to have a Farmer's Market?**
- a. **discuss events planned and how they will be executed**
- b. **Need of more volunteers for events - idea?**
- c. **general discussion on how things are progressing**
- d. **discussion on CSA - where, how do we distribute, etc., signs**

9. *Friends of Lachat: - Carol*

- a. detailed financial report of farm activities and expenses and profits for 2020
- b. Any plans for additional fund raising
- c. New Building information

F. *Music Committee - Ellen, Anita,*

- a. discuss upcoming event, sponsors, musicians, food at event, expenses
- b. discuss helpers for the hors d'oeuvres
- c. **Carol - give bottom line of events so far this year**

D. *New Business:*

- a. **discuss any new business ideas, etc.**
- b. develop list of commission members heading up committees and finding orgs in town who will get involved to help such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Key Club, etc.:  
Goat House volunteers  
feeding the animals and generally taking care of them  
compost from animals - where and who will take care of

\*\*We have a large agenda and the priority items for discussion are in boldface type.