

TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH  
Steele Farm Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Bruce Hager at 7:40 PM at the Boxborough Museum. Attending members were Jeanne Kangas, and Ed Whitcomb. Absent: Dave Birt.

Minutes. We approved minutes of the June 16, 2015 meeting.

Barn restoration project update. The package is out to bid.

Management Plan proposed by Conway School students. The Plan's idea of having a picnic table, a place for people to rest or lunch was discussed. We had 6 picnic tables at one time, made by Owen Neville's son; but they were moved elsewhere, and 1 or 2 fell into disrepair. Ed to contact Tom Garmon to see if 2 can be returned. Emphasizing the agricultural use and history of the farm will stay the main focus; and enhancing trails and bird watching opportunities will be important. Bruce obtained some comments from stakeholders and concerned residents about the Plan, and sent them to the graduate students. We were supposed to get a draft Plan from them, to comment before the final Plan was issued, but we didn't receive any draft. There are a few changes that should be made before the Plan is considered final, and those will be forwarded to the Selectmen. It will take time and more funding to implement many of the Plan's recommendations, it was noted.

Replacement of dog waste receptacle. Bruce obtained a new barrel with a lid and tethered the lid to the surrounding cage for the barrel.

Christmas tree mowing. Ed has done some mowing.

Discuss Leon Brown's research project at Steele Farm. Her project would assess blood parasites in certain migratory birds and measures of immune function. The paperwork is in process.

Bob-o-links nesting. Bruce noticed some and posted the notice to visitors.

Christmas tree sale this December. VOTED unanimously to set the sale for this December 5 from 10 AM to 3 PM. We will need volunteers to help with the sale. We need to prune the trees in September.

New Business.

- We need to seek a new member or two. Dave Birt is not well.
- Bruce asked to step down as Chair, and we VOTED Ed Whitcomb to serve as Chair, and Jeanne Steele Kangas to serve as Clerk.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be scheduled for August 24th at 7:30PM at Town Hall.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

*Jeanne Steele Kangas*, Clerk