

# Approved Minutes-Lachat Town Farm Commission

June 4, 2024

Meeting held in person, Lachat Town Farm

**Attending:** Katherine McConnaughey (Chair), Nicholas Bell, Stirling Collins, Bruce Plotkin, Ellen McCormick, Erica Reiner

Guests: Anita Dinwoodie, Exec. Dir., Friends of Lachat, Aidan Baker, Junior Advisory Board Member, Alyson Razaki, Farm Intern, Senior, Weston High School

Meeting commenced at 7:42 pm.

Motion to approve the May 7, 2024 minutes made by Nick, second by Stirling. Motion passed unanimously.

Alyson Razaki shared her farm internship experience with all present.

***Around the Farm Spotlight*** – Alissa Stoltz presented the Lachat Farm Friends Membership Program for review and discussion. Alissa shared that Leila Brier, Weston resident, has offered to present a branding session to Friends of Lachat board, Lachat Town Farm Commission members and others involved in the farm as a focus group to help her develop a new branding program for the farm. This can be done in conjunction with the roll out of the membership program. Further discussion involved administration of the membership program database and membership levels and possible renaming of each level (refer to membership program page). Alissa requested additional review and input from Commission members on the program as currently proposed. There is a need for a volunteer, or two, to help manage all of the administrative details. Possible launch date for membership program is this Summer, mid July.

***Upcoming Events:*** Anita shared the success and photos of both music concerts featuring Raul Midon, 5/31, and Renee Elise Goldsberry, 6/1 at the farm this past weekend. Anita urged Commission members to offer to volunteer at upcoming Farmer's Market and Music in the Meadow events.

***Chairwoman's Report:*** Kat announced Ellen McCormick's and Carol Baldwin's as Weston Citizens of the Year. All Commission members applauded this well-deserved honor! Kat suggested that Commission members volunteer at the Farmer's Market in July, Anita suggested at the bar.

### ***Committee Reports:***

- A) **Buildings:** Discussion by Anita and Commission members of install of the new acoustic panels in the gathering space; and that additional panels will be installed there and in the studio. The panels that were installed worked well for the past weekend's events.
- B) **Grounds:** Ellen was working on invasives with the high school interns and encountered hornet/wasp nests.
- C) **Barnyard:** None presented
- D) **Bee-Yard:** Erica requested that the grass area closest/around the Beeyard weed whacked.
- E) **Farm Equipment:** There repair needed for the push mower and wheelbarrow
- F) **Wish List:** Bruce shared that there have already been some updates to the Wish List; and is continuing to meet with everyone for needed items. He explained that it is very important for everyone to provide an online link to each of their items for him to add them to the Wish List. Additionally, Bruce requested input from the group about ways to communicate/publicize the Wish List so that people will visit the website and donate these items. In addition to including in farm newsletter and social media, other suggestions included publicizing at farm events and incorporating in the membership program (donors could select items for their monetary donations).

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. Bruce made the motion to adjourn, Ellen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 7:30pm at Lachat Town Farm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Erica Reiner