

Szegda Farm Management Committee

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Present: Ann Dunnack, Tom McGrath, and Nancy Schwartz

The meeting opened at 7:05 PM.

The minutes of 6/5/14 were approved.

Audience:

Old Business

Agricultural usage of Ag units 5 & 6: Ron Szegda has hayed the plains lot. Since this lot can not now be used as incentive for having someone bush hog other fields, we need alternatives options. No brush hogging has been done on the 'sledding' lot since before SF Heritage Trails Day at the beginning of June. We will pursue having money added to the town budget in order to hire someone to brush hog fields annually.

Water Pump: no news

New Business:

Community Garden Report: Bob Ulkus hosted a gathering of the community gardeners at 8:30 AM on Labor Day. We discussed this year's season and experiences. A specially tended pumpkin was clipped from the vine from one gardener's plot. After discussing the possibility of installing a lock on the gate it was decided instead to re-post signs on the gates noting that access was for plot-holders only. The lack of an easy-to-use water pump was again noted. Tarping the unused areas of the garden has kept the number of weeds down. Several gardeners noted that they would like larger plots next year. Bob noted that fall cleanup of plots should begin after the first killing frost and be completed by Nov. 15. Ideally leaves, compost, or cover crops should be employed in order to not leave the soil bare and exposed. He would like another delivery of 'clean' wood chips before then so that pathways can be re-covered.

Steward Report: Chris McGrath mowed the trails on Labor Day weekend.

Other: Tom McGrath mentioned that the ECSU biology department might be interested in using Szegda Farm for some of its field work in the future.

The SFMC would like to express its gratitude to Tom McGrath, Chris McGrath, Gary King, Bob Ulkus, and the rest of the crew who mowed the trails and around the garden.

~~We would also like to express thanks to the town for supplying a new self-propelled mower and weed wacker to use for trail maintenance.~~

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Next Regular meeting: Noveber 13, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Schwartz, secretary

Received: September 18, 2014
At 9:25
Attest: Gabriel M. Keneff
Town Clerk/Assistant Town Clerk