

Wilton Conservation Commission

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Minutes of August 22, 2018 Special Meeting at Four Corners Farm

The Wilton Conservation Commission held a special meeting on Wednesday at 1:00pm at Four Corners Farm in Wilton.

Call to Order: The meeting convened in the parking lot at Four Corners Farm at 1:00 pm.

Participating were: Bart Hunter, WCC Chair; Jacob Holubeck, Four Corners Farm; Bill Maher, WCC; Jeff Stone, WCC acting recorder; Stanley Young, Wilton Heritage Commission Chair, Nancy Clark, WHC Secretary.

There was informal discussion of wooden fencing having been replaced by electrified wire and a steel gate, that wooden fencing was too costly to maintain and the as-built materials are now standard for farming.

We first moved to the west side of the barn (behind the Hilltop Cafe) to view 3 new and 2 replaced windows on the barn's west-facing side which were found to not in keeping with the windows in the rest of the farm buildings, by lacking divided lights.

There was a discussion about a south-facing sliding door on the west side of the barn having been removed. The door is still visible and J. Holubeck says that the door still operates.

A small outbuilding in that area had been cited for being a different color; it has since been repainted barn red to match the rest of the buildings.

Non-matching roofing panels on the barn-roof's W slope: Most of the roofing material is an old, black, corrugated asphalt. In a few places the asphalt has been replaced with green metal panels. The issue was the non-matching colors. J. Holubeck expected it would be two years before the rest of the roof could be replaced to match. Initially S. Young had first expressed that it would be OK to have the two colors until the roofing had been fully replace, but after viewing the E roof slope, and on further reflection, requested J. Holubeck to paint the present green sections black, and at such time as Four Corners Farm was prepared to replace the barn roof, to discuss materials and colors with the Wilton Heritage Commission.

(At this point, the meeting had moved back to the parking lot.)

An overhead garage-door on the S wall of the barn facing the parking lot had been cited. J. Holubeck stated he was told by the former owners that they had replaced an existing overhead door with one of a like type. S. Young and J. Holubeck agreed that the overhead door would be painted barn-red.

Several replacement windows, and one wall section in the S and E facing corner of the barn facing the parking lot, were white in color. S. Young and J. Holubeck agreed that these would be painted barn-red.

A small housing trailer presently near the NE corner of the parking lot, had been cited for incompatible materials and color. It has since been painted barn-red.

S. Young and J. Holubeck agreed that wooden fencing is no longer economically or practically feasible on a working farm; that replacement with electrified wire and steel gates (the subject of a conversation noted above) was necessary; and that J. Holubeck would write a letter to LCHIP explaining the necessity.

A stone "wall", had been cited for dismantlement for access to a field N of the barn. S. Young was of the opinion that it had probably been that way for decades, that field stones hadn't been built into walls for many years but rather dumped in a line, and the Wilton Heritage Commission was willing to dismiss this point.

A building (workers' quarters & cheese cave) to the E side of the parking lot was natural wood color on its N side. S. Young and J. Holubeck agreed that this wall would be painted barn-red.

S. Young, B. Hunter, and J. Holubeck agreed that J. Holubeck would write a letter to LCHIP with a copy to the Wilton Select Board, summarizing the corrective actions already taken and those planned as of today's meeting.

Adjournment

At 1:53pm, all present agreed that there was nothing more needing discussion and we dispersed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Stone, Acting Recorder