

## Oak Grove Farm Minutes May 1, 2019

In attendance: Steve MacInnes, John McAvoy, Sue McAvoy, Julio Fontecchio and Rob Elbery. Kathi Smith – secretary.

Guests: Erin Underhill – Moderator  
Nate Maltinsky – Historical Commission  
Mike Banks – Recreation Committee

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

- Julio made a motion to accept the minutes as read from the March 21, 2019 meeting. Rob seconded. All in favor.
- Nate Maltinsky, representing the Historical Commission, came to the meeting to request having a “Brew Fest” fundraiser at Oak Grove Farm. Other members from the Historical Commission at the meeting were Larry Jujari, Shawn McNiff and Mark Slayton. The “Brew Fest” fundraiser would be on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 9 pm. They would like permission to have a tent behind the farmhouse and use the bowl for parking. The Historical Commission will obtain a one day liquor license and town insurance. There will be temporary lighting, a police detail, food vendors and beer vendors. The Historical Commission is responsible for removing all trash. This will be a rain or shine event. No use of upper or lower soccer fields.
- Julio made a motion to allow the Historical Commission to use the area behind the farmhouse for a “Brew Fest” fundraiser on September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 pm, John seconded. All in favor. Sue will issue a permit stating that the Historical Commission will get a porta potty, remove all trash, confirm town insurance, pay for a police detail for traffic and no driving or parking on the soccer fields for this event. Vendors will arrive around 5pm and leave around 10 pm.
- Julio made a motion to suspend the agenda to allow Mike Banks to speak regarding the new Fields Initiative, Rob seconded. All in favor. Mike Banks, the Chair of the Recreation Committee had been approached by several sport groups who are interested in kick starting an effort to revise our fields’ master plan that was done in 2014. He acknowledged that the new school project not only impacted land but also surely affected the ability of the community to take on new debt. He stated the groups are interested in exploring ways the town might be able to expand playing field areas and get conditions improved on existing fields at a reasonable cost to

users and taxpayers. A discussion followed on equitable maintenance for all fields and the cost of that, centralized scheduling and the manageability of both of these when all town fees collected are not the same and additionally that these fees go into different town funds to possibly pay other things besides field maintenance. All fees collected at OGF go into maintenance and OGF is in a unique situation because they need to maintain 108 acres not just playing fields. There was additional discussion on new playing fields, possible locations and the recognition that OGFC did try to build a new field behind the farmhouse, but was not permitted by the former Town Administrator due to the use of funds disagreement and the response from other members of the community that wanted a different field layout. OGFC noted that things have changed in the last 5 years and this option may not be a viable option.

- Steve MacInnes discussed entertaining a motion for a new chairman for the Oak Grove Farm Commission and should there be a Vice Chairman. Discussion followed and all members were in agreement that Steve MacInnes does a great job as Chairman and his dedication to the OGF is noticed and appreciated. Julio made a motion to have Steve MacInnes continue as Chairman and have John McAvoy be Vice Chairman. Rob seconded. All in favor.
- Discussion about Oak Grove Farm requests. Color Run is Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 3:30pm. Girls Scout Camporee is May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Millis Soccer Club is practicing and playing games. Girls Softball is practicing and playing their games. Sparhawk is using the baseball field Monday - Thursday 3:30 to 5:30 pm.
- Discussion about adding new signs to OGF. Steve has presented several design proofs for signs. Julio made a motion to purchase two reflective signs not to exceed \$200. Sue seconded. All in favor
- Steve made a motion to pay the invoice from Stevit for work completed at OGF in the amount of \$280.00 to repair the soccer goals. John seconded. All in favor.
- Julio made a motion to pay the invoice from Hidden Hill Farm in the amount of \$160.00 to repair the pergola near the playground. Rob seconded. All in favor.
- The Commission discussed spraying trees for gypsy moths. Money has been allocated for one application. John will contact Harrison McPhee to discuss if one application would benefit the trees or should we consider two applications.
- Request from Meg Randa from Life Experience School to have a "Field Day" at OGF on June 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 1:30. Julio made a motion to allow Life Experience School to have field day on June 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 1:30, John seconded. All in favor. On the permit Sue will make sure they have insurance and remove all trash.

- Vote to adjourn the meeting was made by Julio at 9:35 pm, seconded by Rob. All in favor.
- Next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Smith