

**Minutes of Friends of Auerfarm Scenic Reserve (FASR) Steering Committee Meeting  
11-28-17  
Town Hall, Bloomfield, CT**

Attendees: Elizabeth Appel, Naomi Cohen, John Maier, Kate Shafer, Christopher Shepard, Beth Schiro, Eric Hammerling, Jeff Read, Jo-Ann Bowen, John Guglielmoni

Meeting commenced 6:35 pm.

1. Agenda: Naomi Cohen made a motion to accept the agenda, Eric Hammerling seconded, all approved.
2. Minutes: Naomi Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes of the 10/23/17 meeting. John Maier seconded. All approved.
3. Infrastructure:
  - a. State Actions: John Guglielmoni, park supervisor for the Auerfarm Scenic Reserve (“ASR”) (and other state parks) was introduced. He has looked at the easement and deed and he’ll be talking to DEEP about ASR. First on the list:
    - i. Cut and cap the water line, as a 1<sup>st</sup> step to demolishing the buildings; should be done by the end of this week
    - ii. State Historic Preservation office has looked at the property to be sure that anything that should be salvaged will be
    - iii. (in response to a question by Naomi Cohen) they’ve asked that any materials that can be recycled will be (e.g., pine floors, apple barn doors) and those materials will go on publicsurplus.com. If plantings are on the native species list, they can be relocated elsewhere on the Reserve; otherwise they can be take away, pursuant to a plan
  - b. John Guglielmoni then outlined the 2018 priorities for the state:
    - i. Remove houses and apple barn; they’re working on the permitting process
    - ii. Put a gate at the base of the road by the apple barn
    - iii. Determine the location and install a sign for entry to the Reserve; should be tied to a parking area, possibly on 4H property (here, after a discussion, there seemed to be a consensus that it makes sense to have the main sign at the actual entry to the Reserve, with a brown sign down on the road).
    - iv. Wait until the buildings have been removed before we start encouraging visits to the Reserve
    - v. Mow the apple tree area; try to preserve the trees; coordinate with 4H regarding disease management
    - vi. (This point raised by Christopher Shepard): talk to 4H about who owns what equipment in the apple barn; equipment needs to be removed
    - vii. Create a management plan for the Reserve
    - viii. (This point raised by Eric Hammerling): construction of trails – especially a trail that connects to the blue trail. This would not be a state effort – it would need to be a community effort. It was suggested that we establish a membership for a fee, both as a

source of funds and a source of labor. Also, we are waiting to hear from MDC to clarify who will be responsible for maintenance, etc. of trails.

4. Outreach Programming

- a. Christopher Shepard will send agendas and minutes of steering committee meetings to the larger friends group; no objections.
- b. Full Moon Party: Jo-Ann Bowen explained that the purpose of the party is to thank ourselves, to build connections among ourselves, and to grow the circle.
- c. 2018 Goals to be discussed at the next meeting

5. Governance:

- a. Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement: Christopher Shepard referred the committee to materials emailed yesterday and there ensued a discussion of this proposed agreement and potential liabilities. Among other points raised were the following:
  - i. Under the indemnification provision, each member of the committee would be fully liable for the actions of the others
  - ii. A question was raised as to whether we could be a committee of CFPA instead of a separate (non-)entity
  - iii. A question was raised as to whether we could omit the indemnification provision and simply adopt sufficient controls to ensure that funds would be disbursed only with proper documentation (see Colorado agreement)
  - iv. It was agreed to present the Colorado type agreement to CFPA to see if it is acceptable to them. Naomi Cohen and Elizabeth Appel will look at this agreement, circulate it; and we should all give them comments on that agreement and on operating guidelines.
- b. Naomi Cohen moved that we maintain the FASR Steering Committee and existing officers as currently exist until April 1; Jo-Ann Bowen seconded; all approved.

6. Next meeting: A date to be determined in January, with the sole agenda item being governance.

7. Naomi Cohen moved that the meeting be adjourned, Jeff Read seconded, all approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.