

Minutes of The Heritage Committee
Jan. 15, 2013 – Town Hall – 7 p.m.

Members present: William Hansen, Ray Wilcox, Arnie Magid, Chet Kuras, Roger Ives, William Moncrief
Absent; Jack Quinn, Mark Winne

Chairman William Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Citizen Comment: None

Minutes: Mr. Moncrief moved to approve the minutes of the Dec. 18, 2012 meeting; the motion was seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Open Space/Farm Preservation Program – Mr. Wilcox noted that in this fiscal year, the Open Space program had not been allocated any funding. This is the first year that the budget has not funded to some extent the Farmland Preservation Program. We have approximately \$100,000 remaining in the current budget, but that is not sufficient to make a single purchase. Now before and during the budget season, is the time to make our support known to the Board of Selectmen and to the Board of Finance. The Town Planner, Bill Hawkins will request of the Board of Finance, \$500,000, to support the Farm Preservation Fund. The Chairman requested Mr. Moncrief to write an article for the Suffield Observer using data supplied by the Town Planner and Mr. Wilcox. He will inform the residents of the history of the program, its success, and why it is important to the Town in regard to taxes. There is much interest in this program; there are approximately 15 possible future applicants.

Ff Tyler Place Redevelopment – At the current time, there is no new action.

Zoning and Planning Commission update – Mr. Kuras reported that the Zoning and Planning Commission will meet next week.

Conservation Commission update – Mr. Wilcox noted that there is not a lot of activity at this time.

Signage – Mr. Hansen will provide a sign, Farmland Preserved, for the Olson Farm.

The Committee actively supports the Farmland Preservation Program and will attend both the Board of Selectmen's meeting and the Board of Finance budget review meeting when scheduled.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary

HC.Min.Jan.15.2013