



**TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
Meeting Minutes**

BOARD/COMMITTEE: Steel Farm Advisory Committee

MEETING DATE: Aug 7th, 2023

TIME: 7:07 PM

PLACE: Steele Farm Barn (484 Middle Road, Boxborough, 01719)

Members Present: Arden Veley (Chair), Christopher Hydak (Clerk), Melissa MacGillvray

1. Approve minutes of June 15 and July 20, 2023

Melissa made the motion with some changes specified. Arden seconded. Approved.

2. Update on status of the future repairs to be done to the Wetherbee/Steele Farmhouse and future steps to be taken

Arden with Michael Johns inspected the farmhouse. The chimney originally was only going to be done from the roof upwards, but now from the attic up. He is still working on the RFP to include the part of the chimney.

Michael Johns can't be clerk of the works, so John Skinner will take that role. We expect the new roof before winter.

Arden asked Michael Johns to start on the RFP this year for the outside (non-roof). Michael Johns is busy, but hopefully the RFP can get done.

3. Warrant language for the ice house and future steps to be take

It appears from the website, union wage carpenters are \$80/hour.

We reviewed a draft of the icehouse town warrant. We are missing the estimate. John Skinner will produce this number when he returns. We need to go to the select board on the 28th to present the warrant for their approval to be included in the town meeting. We will need a meeting before the 28th to approve this warrant

4. DPW (Buildings and Grounds) update and a volunteer to mow the trails

Melissa and Arden walked the property to determine what else the DPW could do. 2 sugar maples by the pond, the tree by the barn, the tree over the pond.

Than volunteered to mow all of the walking the trails as it's a bad time for the DPW.

5. Status of the hay field

Arden talked to Rick, Donnie Morse's son-in-law. Usually it's done by the middle of July. At this point, the hay has little nutritional value.

Most farmers cut in May. Because of the birds, we have to wait until the end of July. This might be a problem in the future.

6. **Planting new Christmas tree seedlings in the spring of 2024**

We should order these trees in September in order to get them delivered in the Spring. Arden will contact the high school about school work day to help us plant. Next meeting, we'll bring up a proposal

7. **Old business: well**

Owen wasn't at the meeting, so we didn't discuss this. The hay isn't cut yet, so he hasn't put the pump in.

8. **New business: Members can present new items for discussion**

How do deal with yearly maintenance for the farm buildings. Christopher feels we need to be inspecting the farm buildings every quarter. We should keep a list of every request made to DPW

9. **Next meeting date?**

Friday the 25th. 7pm at the barn.

10. **Adjournment**

Christopher made motion to adjourn. Melissa seconded. All in favor. 8:11