



Heritage Farm Advisory Board Meeting Minutes



Thursday, November 19th, 2020 4:00pm to 5:30 pm
Virtual Meeting Via WebEx

Advisory Committee: Sandy Brown, Kirk Gresham, Gary Garth*, Rob Freed, Kathleen Perillo*, Bill Zimmerman*

Clark County Food Bank: Alan Hamilton*, Emily Kaleel*, Henry Rogatz

WSU Extension: Kristine Perry, Justin O'Dea*, Robert Goughnor*, Annette Vary-Getty*, Jodee Nickel (Community Garden Coordinator and SNAP)

Friend of the Farm Foundation: Blair Wolfley, Doug Ballou*, Marc Boldt* (Sandy Brown/Kirk Gresham)

Master Gardener's Foundation: Nancy Funk, Julie Bruning*

Food System Council and Friends of Clark County: Heather Tischbein

Clark County Staff:

Parks and Lands: Galina Burley*, Kevin Tyler*, Patrick Lee, Joe Zimmerman, Laura Hoggatt, Alex Hourani, Chris Walker

Community Planning/Historic Preservation: Jacqueline Kamp, Sharon Lumbantobing*

Facilities: Michelle Murie*

Clean Water: Jeff Schnabel*, Marlee Milosevich*

Public Works Director/Staff: Ahmad Qayoumi*, Magan Reed*

Council Staff: Kathleen Otto*, Lindsey Shafar*, Marilee McCall*

Farm Neighbors/Interested Parties: Judi Bailey*, Lisa Bayautet*, Sharon Kenoski, Curtis Knopp, Chuck McCracken*, Linda Nutter*, Tracy Pax, Ila Stanek*, Robin Summers*, Sue Marshall

* Not Present

4:06pm Called to Order – Patrick Lee

Time	Action Item
4:12pm	MOTION BY: Robert Freed SECOND BY: Kirk Gresham
	MOTION: Motion to adopt September 24, 2020 minutes as submitted
	DISCUSSION:
	IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None ABSTAINED: None

3) Business and Marketing Plan Update – Patrick Lee

- Still waiting for guidance from council – hope to get direction and feedback soon
- Follow up meeting with WSU – Submitted proposal to suggest how they could help with developing business and marketing plan – this has been sent to council for feedback

- c) Rob frustrated about nothing developing with council – don't seem to be getting anywhere – Pat said they are directed to work through County Manager and have put together timelines – Council has not deliberated on any suggestions – will keep pushing for more feedback

4) Farm Advisory Committee Report – Sandy Brown, Farm Advisory Committee

- a) No new proposals – trying to remind everyone to turn in event request
- b) Storage – Committee toured farm with Joe – trying to come up with proposal for better storage
- c) Increase Community Garden Fees from \$60 to \$75 per plot – waiting to hear back from council – Money directed to WSU to assist with management of Community Gardens – asking council if they had any objection but don't need council approval – program under umbrella of WSU – Would like to hear back soon so Jodee can work on contracts
- d) Solar energy proposal – Presentation to Historic Commission – Good overview of early on proposal – two new members and some members that haven't had time to view farm/had a lot of questions – some questions about potential graves outside of cemetery where panels would go – group is on standby to receive application when ready
- e) Equipment survey/Joe's services - List all equipment used on farm by users, how many hrs./year do they use it and any other products they may use – goal is to price equipment out and provide Master Composters/Gardeners with a list that shows how much of Joe's time they utilize and what it will cost – should be available in three to four months so users can provide feedback – part of user agreements is base set of service and anything over and above that base they will be charged – still working out details – also working with Joe on projects and processes (IE; plowing, checkout for equipment)
- f) Potential farm model - <https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/> Tollgate Farm is about the same size as Heritage Farm and has similar functions – exploring this and have talked to person who runs this farm – model to look at what we can do here that would be revenue enhancing and support agriculture
- g) Sandy will be sending out notice and questions for programs to answer regarding compiling data for the year

5) Farm Operations Report – Joe Zimmerman

- a) Winterized irrigation systems
- b) Training and work on business proposals from Tollgate Farms
- c) Washing things up, oiling/greasing and getting things put away
- d) Thanked everyone for their understanding of what it was like to not have corrections crew as in the past
- e) Users should have a solid plan by now and mid-March

6) 2021 Meeting Schedule – Patrick Lee

- a) Keep every other month – Third Thursday, 4-5:30pm – Starting in January 2021

7) Public Comments received - Patrick Lee

- a) Curtis Knopp – has anyone addressed reflections onto neighboring properties from solar panels? Pat said we have not gotten to that point of discussion yet – needs to go to Historic Preservation Commission for review – looking at new structure on site and impact it would have – not sure if it comes under the code – Joe commented that he doesn't think the sunlight will reflect onto the houses – Kirk said the question should be addressed
- b) Sharon Kenoski – Rob brought up concern at Historic Preservation Commission that solar panels wasn't fitting with guiding principles – grant for low-income people buy into it and that could be difficult – if it happens can we get credit from CPU
- c) Sharon Kenoski – Markers for Wetland Restoration included some Community Gardens – hopefully they don't destroy what is already there – asking to please be notified when spraying herbicides as a common courtesy – Pat said timing is still early on the restoration and Clean Water will participate in one or more of these meetings in the future to provide answers

- d) Sharon Kenoski - Master Plan – can't we get started with the raised platform trail along Cougar Creek – we need a trail to be able to get more grants and public support – she is fearful of the developmental pressure
- e) Sharon Kenoski - Community Garden Fee Increase – Not happy with \$75 rate – a lot of people may not keep the plot due to the increase – they still need to have tilling done at \$35/plot and put in cover crops – Jodee Nickel said this is a recommendation for the cost to go up, not everyone gets their plot tilled but it is a good service – Community Garden may be getting their own rototiller – Rob Freed said the fee hasn't been raised in about four or five years – No decision has been made – Kristine Perry said WSU is the coordinator of Community Gardens – any money from the plots goes to part of Jodee's income – also not opposed to increasing the fee but is this the right time? Fees do not cover all costs of Community Garden – Jodee commits to six hours a week to the Community Garden
- f) Blair Wolfley Friends of Farm board meeting talked about solar/wetlands/proposed projects – first thing that should be asked is to what extent will the project enhance the future sustainability and productivity of the farm – put into wetlands what is NOT farmable – also, rather than low income can the solar project be offset for the farm
- g) Jodee Nickel – Successes at Community Gardens
 - i) Shed was painted
 - ii) New hawk/predator perch – bat/owl box
 - iii) Painted all tools in shed
 - iv) William in plots 25/26 is main volunteer and Liz in plot 81 or 82 rototills for us
 - v) Community Garden looked fabulous this year

5:04pm Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Chris Walker, Secretary

2021 Meeting Schedule (Third Thursday every other month)

January 21, 2021

March 18, 2021

May 20, 2021

July 15, 2021

September 16, 2021

November 18, 2021

All meetings are scheduled from 4:00 to 5:30 PM

For the foreseeable future all meetings will be virtual via WEBEX