

# **Holliston Community Farm Advisory Board**

## **Minutes 01/20/2021**

Members present: Dennis Prefontaine, Jim Taralli, Kriss Westland, Dennis Serocki, and Kristen Serocki

Guests: Melissa Murphy and Shannon Gratton

Motion to approve the last two meetings minutes by Jim, Seconded by Dennis Prefontaine.  
Approved by all members.

Melissa Murphy: Worked with Upswing Farm in the prior years, due to their move she is looking to start her own endeavor possible at the Community Farm. She will still be working with Upswing farm to some compacity, growing her own crop and selling at markets.

Dennis Serocki asked how much room she was looking to farm in the field, and what she would need from us if we all agreed. Melissa said she was looking for a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an acre to a  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre and would also be interested in some space in the greenhouse to start some plants and to get an earlier start to the growing season.

The group said we would chat again and would vote on it at our next meeting.

CPC: Progress Frank Chamberlain said he would be in touch with an update.

Site work: Kriss received a quote of \$30,000 for the parking area to be graveled, we will need to shop around for other options. She also received a quote to put in a new well at the farm for \$10,000. Kriss also researched a composting toilet for outside at the farm and got a price of about \$17,000. We will need to work on the application for CPC funds for some of these projects which would make the property more useable for the community.

Parks and Rec classes: Mark would be interested in doing the classes at the farm again. We would have to follow all COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. We could start the week before April vacation every other week for a 6-to-8-week time frame. Do we want to do it over the summer again as well or maybe we just want to host some field trips to the farm? We will need work out the details.

Budget: Sue Nessesian reached out to Kriss about budgeting for the farm. We do need to come up with a budget for the town. Dennis Serocki shared the information of the revolving account. Some items we need to consider when we work out the budget: Fence work, tools and supplies, equipment and rentals, gas, utilities, seeds, and field supplies.

Sustainability coordinator may have some compost that we may be able to get access too. Kriss will see where it will be coming from to make sure it is something that will be useable.

Seedling sale:

Shannon has been looking into supplies needed for the seeding sale. She has also created a spreadsheet which covers the costs as well as possible revenues. We will need to come up with a planting schedule and possibly look for some starter plants as the greenhouse or the house does not have heat and will not be suitable for germinating seeds.

Kristen will investigate some other wholesalers for different prices on pots, soil, and plants. We need to find out if the Friends of would like to be a part of this fund raiser.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07

Our next meeting will be Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm