

## Goshen Farm Sharing Garden Committee Report for February 2016

Submitted by Bob Nestruck, Garden Chairman to Lou Biondi, GFPS President and GFPS Board

### **Accomplished:**

1. 59 of 62 garden plots are rented.
2. Garden seems to have survived the 30 inches of snow nicely.
3. Plot 15 rented to Broadneck Enclave program and will get them working on it this month.

### **Needs Accomplishing:**

1. Short Term:
  - a. Encourage gardeners to attend their plots as soon as possible for Open House.
  - b. Sharing Garden fence needs to be scraped and painted.
  - c. Establish educational workshops for high tunnel usage.
  - d. Compost piles need attending.
  - e. Address the issue of pests in the garden, potentially with Guinea Hens.
  
2. Long Term:
  - a. Improve volunteerism in the Sharing Garden.

**Accomplished:**

1. Developed with Terry Brandon several PowerPoint Programs for the Rotary Club of Parole Annapolis. We chose a PowerPoint Program called "A Vision of Goshen Farm," highlighting the accomplishments made in the development of a broad, educational effort started by Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Inc. We presented on February 2 at a breakfast meeting of the Club. We also, invited the Club to Goshen Farm either individually or attend our Spring Open House in April.
2. Duplicated a set of Goshen Farm keys and gave to David McCormick, the newly installed Building & Maintenance Chair.
3. Installed with Stan Synowczynski the cleaned carburetor on the tractor. The tractor seemed to run better. However, the tractor did not perform well in the recent deep snow. Even though the large rear tires looked good, they were too bald to gain traction in the snowy parking lot. Thus, plowing the driveway with the tractor was out of the question. Getting several bids for plowing the Goshen Farm driveway (Radoff Road) for future snow events (Mike Hill and Randy Lester – both residents of Cape St. Claire).
4. Scheduled a meeting between Sandy Vandever, a new GFPS member and beekeeper and Jenni Biondi, a bee enthusiast, to talk of the future of the Goshen Farm Apiary. The initial meeting lead to several other onsite meeting(s) and an extensive telephone planning conversation between these two ladies. It sounds like they plan to jump in full force and conduct an exciting Goshen Farm Apiary program. Erik Wallace also plans to maintain his involvement in the Apiary, started by his Eagle Scout son, Lyle.
5. Re-arranged the existing beehives into a more practical arrangement with the option to further increase the number of hives in a level and evenly spaced hive arrangement. The four present hives are now placed on four treated 6" X 6" treated timbers, which place the hives much lower to the ground to facilitate ease of working with the hives. The hives will each be painted a different color as weather permits.
6. Cleared a new area of small trees and extensive vines for future placement of the present GFPS Storage Container and an additional area, should GFPS obtain a second storage container. The area is in the lower field just east of the landscaping block and brick storage area.
7. Met with John Bischoff of Bischoff's Well Drilling and Services to obtain a price for a new replacement well at Goshen Farm.
8. Wrote up four "Priority Projects and Costs" items that included #4 Storage Container, #5 Road Improvements, #8 Replacement of Well, and #9 Wildlife Pond Excavation and Installation. These write-ups will help give GFPS a set of priority projects (including their cost) has to help plan an effective strategy in moving forward.
9. Met with Scot Brunner, Lou Biondi, Dave McCormick, and Michael Buchet about the Goshen Farm Security System
10. Attended the 'Broadneck African-American Heritage Project, Inc.' Saturday the 6 of February, in support of Terry Brandon and Lou Biondi. The event was held at the Mt. Olive Community Life Center. Terry and Lou represented Goshen Farm with a table depicting Goshen Farm.
11. Made two new wooden signs for "The Goshen Farm Apiary" and The Henson – Hall Slave Garden and installed them at those two locations.

**Needs Accomplishing:**

1. Figure out why the southwest corner motion security lights remains lit for only 3 to 5 seconds, when activated by motion but then goes out and correct this deficiency.
2. Meet with Bud Reeves, the County Forester, to develop a woodland Management Plan for Goshen Farm.

3. Draft a more comprehensive drawing of the floor timbers, supports, original flooring, new overlaid flooring, and bracing. This will be starting point for further structural guidance and where future excavations for evaluation of the floor and foundation should take place at the Farm House.
4. Help Terry Brandon install a series of valves on the High Tunnel's Drip Irrigation System. This will allow individual rows to be watered (as needed) separately, rather than watering all the plant rows at the same time.
5. Contact Congressmen Wayne Gilchrest, Sassafras Environmental Educational Center, located at Knocks Folly in Kennedyville, Maryland, regarding his educational lesson plans and experiences in Kent County.
6. Long Term:
  - a. Install a series of wood/conveyor belt diversion to remove runoff water at several locations down the driveway, rather than carrying all the runoff all the way down the driveway. This will reduce the velocity and volume of the runoff. Additionally, consider expanding our single lane driveway into a two-way drive or other option(s). This action would allow Goshen Farm to expand future activities at Goshen Farm, relieve traffic issues, and ensure driveway safety.
  - b. Develop a plan to attack to control rampant growth on trees (invasive vines that strangle our growing trees).
  - c. Continue descriptions of planned activities listed in the Grounds Master Use Plan and continue layout of the grounds.
  - d. Pursue new water well for Goshen Farm or try to tie into county water system near the Goshen Farm/Cape St. Claire Elementary School property line.
  - e. Pursue obtaining another 20-foot metal storage container to store equipment and renovation material for the Farm House.
  - f. Pursue composting toilets, holding tank(s) with pump outs, regular toilets connected to a septic system, or connecting to the county sewer system. Jim Morrison, of Hancock's Resolution pointed out that after their research into toilet facilities, Hancock's Resolution will be **using a large holding tank** for the bathroom effluent. He states this is a **MUCH cheaper** way to handle toilet facilities in today's world.

**Needs Approval:** N/A

**New Business:**

1. Security camera(s) should remain a high priority, so GFPS completes this on going project ASAP.

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2016

Submitted by Becky Benner on February 13, 2016

## MEMBER TOTALS for 2016

- Members who either joined or renewed since September 19, 2015, and whose memberships thus expire December 31, 2016.

### Residents

Resident Individuals = 18

Resident Households = 48

Corporate = 10

Includes

0 new Individual member

0 renewal Individual member

1 new Household member

4 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 76 resident members

### Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 17

Non-resident Households = 24

Corporate = 7

Includes

1 new Individual member

2 renewal Individual members

0 new Household member

0 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 48 non-resident members

**2016 Total = 124 overall memberships**

## ACCOMPLISHED

- Attended the Four Rivers Heritage Area Education Committee meeting. Main topics of discussion involved special needs population and how to meet on-going needs to meet ADA requirements but make the museum visit memorable. Braille, use of 3-D printers for hands-on experience with artifacts. Further discussions centered on surveys and which methods of gathering data work best in what environment.
- Invited to attend the Four Rivers Heritage Area Maryland Day Committee meeting despite GFPS not participating in the 2016 MDay event..
- Attended a presentation by Dory Gean Cunningham on colonial Maryland foodways, including food from western Europe, Americas, china, East Indies, and West Indies. Anticipated discovering additional foods that may have been grown or served by owners of present-day Goshen Farm during the colonial period.

- Attended the Four Rivers Heritage Area Site Directors and Managers Summit meeting for exposure and introduction to other historic organizations within the Heritage Area.
- Attended the Broadneck African-American Heritage Program presentation to encourage a partnership between the Asbury Broadneck UMC and GFPS. Met and spoke with other groups which represented black history in the Chesapeake region.
- President Lou; Secretary Smitty; Financial Development Chair, Terry; and I “brainstormed” responses to specific questions on the Maryland State Education Association Mini-Grants Program application. The draft document will be refined and submitted before March 30<sup>th</sup> to MSEA.

### **TO DO ITEMS**

- Review and complete edits for GFPS
  - Bi-fold brochure
  - Service Project Guidelines / Application / Consultation and Review documents
  - Customs and Courtesies Policy
- Resume oral history interviews

### **NOTE**

- February 2105 = 98 overall memberships; February 2016 = 124 overall memberships
- January 2015 = 91 overall memberships; January 2016 = 116 overall memberships
- December 2014 (for 2015) = 43 overall memberships; December 2015 (for 2016) = 86 overall memberships

### **NEW BUSINESS**