

President's Report – September 21, 2016

Administrative items

Performing and Visual Arts Magnet Program

- The Board Members working with Kohner Evans and Miel Hunt received a request for direction on the tone and style of the document they are preparing. We have not had a chance to respond due to other activities.
- I have not heard from Emily Miller. On August 21, 2016, I sent her the following email:

Emily,

I heard from Kohner with a update on her and Miel's activities. Could I please get one from you. I checked the PVA portal and no hours have been logged since our initial meeting July 14th.

I have received no response to date. I will seek direction from Nylca Vandillen.

Constellation Energy Grant

I have to discuss requesting a grant extension with Roy.

Strategic Planning

Continued working with the Strategic Planning Committee, which finalize the revised Vision and Mission Statements and has now started on the Goals and Objectives focusing on the quantification of our objectives.

Memorandum of Understanding

I met with Dr. Arlotto and Stacy Kobelak, President of the Board of Education the morning of September 20th. Ms. Kobelak informed me that the MOU modifying the Goshen Farm lease was on the agenda of the September 21, 2016 Board Meeting. She said that Tyson Bennett was the attorney who reviewed the MOU for the Board. I informed her that it should not have taken eight months to review what should be no more than a two page document.

I related the fact that Mr. Bennett and Alex Szachnowicz, AACPS Chief Operating Officer, were the key individuals in holding up the original lease negotiations for three years. I attributed Mr. Bennett's slow review of the MOU to his dislike of the Society because it caused some embarrassment when it had the County Council block demolition of the Goshen Farm House. She thanked me for sharing that information and said she agreed that the review should not have taken eight months.

Goshen Farm Building & Maintenance Report

September 18, 2016

Monthly Summary: Farmhouse electrical system urgent work and water well system pressure tank maintenance.

Activity This Month:

1. I did not attend the August Goshen board meeting but Roy Benner was tasked by the board with relaying to me an “urgent” safety action to get 2 bids on updating the farmhouse electrical system for;
 - a. Labeling the service panels/breakers
 - b. Installing wall mounted switches for lighting, note; the extension cord lighting will still be used but switches will be provided at doorways
 - c. removal of old abandoned wiring
 - d. bring up to code any temporary/unsafe configurations/circuits including garden GFI that has seen water intrusion
 - e. finish up the 1967 area/meeting room wiring and create some exterior circuits outside the meeting rooms for event power, and provide a switch for the side porch light circuit.
 - f. Permanently install the flagpole light circuit in front porch area.
 - g. I believe Roy said the board had approved some budget for this but I don't recall the amount and I await the August minutes to see what the amount is and any other actions if not relayed by Roy. Michael B. voiced a need for emergency lighting but this was after I requested a bid...so a good idea but not included yet.
 - h. What got done: Dave S. at connect electric immediately came out and walked down the house with Roy and I; discussing the above needs. Dave was confident that current wiring was per code as far as circuit breaker size etc but did say a few things were in a temporary configuration because he had been told (by Goshen reps) that other activities such as foundation work/jacking the house were to be performed before permanent wiring. He promised a bid early in September but he has not delivered it yet. I also requested he provide a summary for past work so Goshen could provide a donation receipt/letter. I contacted J. M Mullen electrician, he is willing to provide a bid if needed. I am waiting to see Dave's bid before requesting one from Mullen. I put blank labels on the service panels so they are ready for circuit labeling. I removed old abandoned wiring from the basement area, it's coiled up in the corner so be careful down there until I dispose of it. Most of the remaining old abandoned wiring is in the kitchen/1860 area. Roy and I mounted the extension cord wiring just to the left when entering the farmhouse side door near the stairs. Now folk can easily switch it on lighting using the yellow switch within easy reach of the side door. All lights except the front porch and meeting room will come on. Meeting room light switch is on the left when standing outside the meeting room facing the door. Front porch remains as the only difficult room

for light switch - will address this soon (permanent wiring fix is challenging without compromising historical structure and/or jacking the house may be needed in that area.

2. Noticed the water well pump was short cycling (about every 10 seconds), pressure was fluctuating from about 40 to 60 psi. It appears the only water leak is a small one in the hoop house (timer circuit). The pressure tank bladder in the servants quarters had proper pressure but the tank in the basement tank had no pressure on the bladder. Roy, Michael B, and I pressurized it to 40 psi. Some slight adjustments may still be needed but the system seems to be operating nominally. Will continue to monitor, please notify me if anyone notices a problem.
3. Spoke with John Penny (carpentry teacher) and also the principal of CAT north when they attended the open house. (Center of Applied Technology, Severn MD) They are willing to do wood projects that can be completed at their campus wood shop. Coming to Goshen is probably not convenient for them. I have their contact information. Lou recommended; shutters and I thought of; trusses for roof for between the containers? Anything else?
4. No activity on these:
5. Lowes grant bathroom project: Lowes grant unlikely to approve over \$25k. Due date for next cycle is March 2017.
 - a. Estimate for septic evaluation (board approved \$1k for an eval);
 - i. last month; spoke with Justin at Robert Beall Services. This is who Teresa Todd recommended.
 1. Beall: \$395 for first hour, \$195/hr after that. He estimates 3 hours if things go smoothly. I have not been able to schedule this inspection yet. Looks unlikely before I travel end of this week. Last board meeting approved \$1K for this (4 hours).
 - ii. requested another estimate, just to be thorough, from our portapotty vendor statewide.
 1. statewide owner Alvin came and looked but said he would go to health dept. and discuss if county would approve our use of septic. No response yet.
6. Cottage;
 - a. Roof repair should last thru the winter but a new roof is needed within the year. Will coordinate this effort.
7. security system: Scott Brunner resurfaced and sent us some links to potential systems for us: dvr and 8 camera systems for about \$2k
 - a. I emailed him on 7/20 and asked about installation etc., no reply yet
8. Administrative: none
9. Farmhouse foundation

10. Paint/repair milk house - this is a project we could probably get volunteers on soon if we organized what they need, Terry is promoting some displays inside at some point

11. Meeting Room project needs:

- a. electrical system installation, mostly complete
- b. Other components and materials must be estimated & obtained. Need plan for floor?
- c. Recruit volunteers, get materials, and set date for insulation, dry-walling, trim & paint.

Goals for next month even though my work/travel schedule is quite busy:

1. Order security systems components (Is budget approved for this? estimate is \$2K ???)
2. Get bids and electrical work done (what is approved budget for this?)
3. Septic tank evaluation completion (budget is approved: \$1k)
4. Cost out some projects per Terry's request and organize some projects for CAT north and other volunteers.
5. I am on overseas travel Oct. 6 -16 so I will miss the harvest dinner.

Compiled by:

Dave McCormick (Goshen Farm Preservation Society Buildings & Maintenance Committee)

301-377-2711

Communications Report – August 17, 2016

Volunteer Assistance

Continuing to work with Jim Barcliff, especially in those cases where we need to add material or modify existing information on the website.

Color Fire – Website Support

The week before the Open House, I was asked to schedule a meeting with the owner of Color Fire, Tony Gallagher. I have not yet scheduled that meeting and do not know the subject matter to be discussed.

Mail Chimp

- The Mail Chimp total list, member list, and sharing garden list have been reconciled.
- I still need to draft instructions for Terry and Bob to use mail chimp to send out simple notices.

GFPS Face Book Page

- I will continue to attempt to do three FB posts every week, including a Throw Back Thursday post with interesting pictures from our archives.

Interview

I was finally able to schedule an interview on Michael Buckley's radio show, Voices of the Chesapeake, on WRNR. The interview was conducted on August 21, 2016 so I was able to plug the Wine Tasting, Open House, and Harvest Dinner.

Goshen Farm Volunteer Coordination/Development Report Committee

Report for September 2016 Submitted by Terry Brandon Chairman to

Lou Biondi, President & GFPS Board

Accomplished:

1. Maintained Hoop House and pepper crop August to date September. Delivered 100 peppers for free distribution Morris H. Blume Senior Apartments, Annapolis, MD by Annapolis Police Dept. Delivered 200 peppers to My Brothers Pantry Distribution to 121 families in August. Delivered 100 peppers to College Parkway Place in August
2. Worked with Kate Mahood on establishing Mission, Vision and Master Plan for Goshen along with others from Goshen Farm membership
3. Worked with Garden Chair Bob Nestruck to organize harvesting and processing of tomatoes for Goshen Fall Harvest Dinner including Diane Kinsley, Karen Bunting, Anne Bastian, Susan Brandon, Kara Maddox, Joyce Gouldy, and Becky Benner.
4. Worked with Kara Maddox, Roy Benner, and Bob Nestruck to organize new procedures for maintaining , planting and harvesting crops in the Henson Hall Slave Garden.
5. Assisted weeding and planting of Henson Hall Slave Garden including 25 tomato plants for harvest dinner, rototilling, spreading cardboard mulch and straw.
6. Resumed Broadneck High School Enclave Program doing Vocational Training on Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:40 -1:30 through the school year with 3 handicapped students Robert, Daniel and Samantha and teacher Mrs. Guidry. Virginia Burris, GFPS member and gardener, volunteer to help weekly.
7. Met with Michelle Weisgerber AAPS and other teachers, regarding fall and winter school programs at Goshen Farm
8. Worked with various volunteers on Goshen Farm cleanup in preparation for Fall Open House
9. Staffed Hoop House, Slave Garden, Servants Quarters area during Fall Open House. Sold \$34 in green peppers during that day.

Needs Accomplishing:

1. Short Term:
 - a. Work with Bob Nestruck to establish plans for October 2016 Goshen Harvest Dinner and verify volunteers to be involved. Hold organizational meeting
 - b. Recruit volunteers for Fall Goshen work projects
 - c. Plan expansion of Hoop House into Hydroponics and Aquaponics and possible science fair projects in cooperation with Environmental Science teacher at Broadneck HS –Matt Bem.
 - d. Develop more in-depth plans for various groups visiting and working at Goshen Farm during late fall and winter months.

2. Long Term
 - a. Begin to organize activities of volunteers around new GFPS Mission/Vision statement
 - b. Research “app” building configuration for Goshen Farm using high school interns and member volunteers

 - c. Recruit additional board members for open positions for 2017

Goshen Farm Sharing Garden Committee Report for September 2016

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

Accomplished:

1. Garden was cleaned and in great shape for the Open House.
2. Composter piles uncovered and some sifted.
3. 2 gardeners were evicted, sadly, and we have 6 plots available.

Needs Accomplishing:

1. Short Term:
 - a. Night vision camera to monitor nocturnal activity.
 - b. Sharing Garden fence to be scraped and painted in the fall.
 - c. Establish educational workshops for high tunnel usage.
 - d. Compost piles need attending.
 - e. Improve Wi-Fi signal to garden.
 - f. Sift compost piles so we can add fall cleanup material.

2. Long Term:
 - a. Improve volunteerism in the Sharing Garden.
 - b. Install Weather station.

Accomplished:

1. Cut Goshen Farm grass three times. Paul Bunting volunteered to help me on the week of the Open House and both of us worked together to get the grass cut in record time (two mowers are definitely faster than one). Dan Perry also used his weed-wacker to trim around all the fences at Goshen. Thanks to Paul and Dan for this much appreciated help. On grass cutting – Stan Synowczyski helped with some much needed maintenance and repair to the large Gravely, the small Craftsman riding mower, and to the choke assembly of the Ford Tractor. The Gravely repairs now allow this mower to cut almost twice as fast before this repair. Thanks, Stan!
2. Steve Noll donated a self-propelled Toro mower to Goshen Farm. Thanks Steve. A letter of appreciation was written and mailed.
3. Eagle Scout Updates:
 - a. Tony Tuckfield has about 11 of the required 14 steps installed on his step project. He has run into a problem in that a small retaining wall may be needed, behind the railing to retain the resulting cut slope. He tells me that he has maximized the 84 Lumber donation amounts. He is wondering what to do; I said GFPS does not normally help finance Eagle Scout Projects.
 - b. Sean Powers is proposing to develop a trail leading from the Cape Saint Claire Road trail, and somewhat paralleling the Goshen Farm driveway, to Goshen Farm. He also envisions a timeline of signs along his trail outlining major history and Goshen Farm dates. He is in the initial concept stage.
 - c. Ian McGhee has submitted several drawing for benches (two circular benches surrounding trees and two regular stand-alone benches). He is in the initial concept stage.
 - d. Steve Engel proposed a large sign at Cape St. Claire Road and the Goshen Farm driveway. He is in the initial concept stage.
 - e. Sam Dennison – don't know who he is, at this time, nor his proposed project.
 - f. Patrick Marsh, a Boy Scout leader will attend a meeting on Monday to better coordinate all Eagle Scout Projects
4. Our Apiary (Beehives) under the direction of Erik Wallace, Jenni Biondi, and Merrie Dail (minus Sandy Vandeven) are experiencing some difficulty in maintaining their vibrant hives: beetles and a wax moth have gotten into some of their hives and caused damage; and two hives became queen-less which further acerbated hive problems. Sandy Vandeven is moving to State College, PA. and may take at least one of her hives. With additional guidance of Carl (a mentor) and others, some of the hives may be combined to increase their vigor or alleviate the queen-less problem. The Goshen Farm Apiary is down to four working hives at this writing. Thanks to Jenni and Erik for fielding the many questions from our Open House guests.
5. The Maryland Department of Agriculture came and inspected the Apiary in early September. All was fine.
6. Assisted Bob Nestruck, Sharing Ground Chair, in hosting a “Workday, Funday, Sunday” on Sunday the 11th of September to accomplish many maintenance and weeding jobs in preparation for the upcoming Open House. The “Funday” portion of the day was a Hot Dog dinner for all the participants. Good hotdogs and food was enjoyed by all!
7. With the help of the beekeepers, we added a great deal of woodchips to the apiary and removed many vines that were trying to take over the Apiary fence. Several large branches were also removed from surrounding trees.
8. Assisted with the visit of Mrs. Veloze's first grade classes from CSC Elementary School which were accompanied by the Vice Principal, Rochelle Barrett. The Vice Principal offered woodchips for Goshen Farm use, if we desired (from a tree that was struck by lightning on their athletic fields and now chipped up).
9. Assisted David McCormick, Building and Maintenance Chair, in streamlining the temporary lighting used in the Farm House. Now, a simple switch just inside the side
10. door, controls all first and second floor lights.

11. Worked with the Broadneck High School's Enclave Students on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mulching projects and removing the huge pile of weeds piled on our composting bins are some of their tasks. The pile of weed material was removed from all bins. The finished compost beneath was sieved to remove unwanted items. Several small trailer loads of the sieved compost was applied to all the trees in the Goshen Farm Orchard and to areas of the Henson – Hall Slave Garden.
12. Assisted Terry Brandon, Development Chair, in rototilling some of the Slave Garden and applying cardboard and straw mulch coverings to keep the weeds down.

Needs Accomplishing:

1. Install a series of wood/conveyor belt diversions to remove runoff water at several locations down the driveway. These multiple diversions will help eliminate the deep ruts caused when runoff flows down the driveway. This will reduce the velocity and volume of the runoff. This project has a short timeframe for completion.
2. 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.
3. Try to get Bud Reeves, the County Forester, to develop woodland Management Plan for Goshen Farm. He has not responded to many messages left on his voicemail.
4. 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.
5. Long Term:
 - a. Develop a plan to attack to control rampant growth of invasive vines that strangle our native trees.
 - b. Continue descriptions of planned activities listed in the Grounds Master Use Plan and continue layout of the grounds.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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: Eagle Scout Projects (Sign at Driveway)

New Business: Status of the Harvest Dinner

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

September 21, 2016

Submitted by Becky Benner on September 18, 2016

MEMBER TOTALS for 2017

- Members who either joined or renewed since September 17, 2016, and whose memberships thus expire December 31, 2017.

Residents

Resident Individuals = 0

Resident Households = 1

Corporate = 6

Includes

0 new Individual member

0 renewal Individual member

1 new Household members

0 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 7 resident members

Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 4

Non-resident Households = 1

Corporate = 4

Includes

4 new Individual members

0 renewal Individual member

1 new Household members

0 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 9 non-resident members

2017 Total = 16 overall memberships

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 = 21

Resident Households = 69

Corporate = 10

Includes

1 new Individual member

0 renewal Individual member

1 new Household members

0 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 100 resident members

Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 25

Non-resident Households = 31

Corporate = 7

Includes

- 1 new Individual member
- 0 renewal Individual member
- 1 new Household member
- 0 renewal Household members
- 0 new Corporate member
- 0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 63 non-resident members

2016 Total = 163 overall memberships

ACCOMPLISHED

- Visited multiple historic farms, mills, museums, national parks, etc., on travels across America for personal interest, for scouting best practices by the organization, and for gathering materials that could be used as reference information for future Goshen Farm grant writing, publicity, and potential “Experiences on the Farm.”
- Attended the Four Rivers Heritage Area Education Committee meeting. The main topic of discussion was “Working with interns – lessons learned, best practices, and attracting the best candidates. “ Historic Annapolis’ Janet Hall, Volunteer Coordinator, provided the extensive materials the organization requests be completed by all applicants, both paid and unpaid. There are fields that could/should be added to Goshen Farm’s *Service Project Application* to assist in matching proposals of projects to the actual and prioritized needs that Goshen Farm has listed.
- Participated in the “Workday, Sunday, Funday at the Farm.” Cleared invasive plants from around stumps in the community area; cleaned the pond area of tree branches and limbs, grasses, and stones; and cleared the hillside in front of the Tenant House (formerly Caretaker’s Cottage) of invasive vines and tree starts.
- Attended the Strategy Meeting and continued discussions on Goals and Objectives for Historic Goshen Farm and Educational Center.
- Attended the Four Rivers Heritage Area’s “Program Accessibility: Best Practices Workshop” presented by Robert Forloney. Forloney has worked with numerous institutions, museums and consortiums for increased awareness of visitors’ needs and improving physical environment and programming accessibility.
- Spent the day at the Goshen Farm Fall Open House, greeting, talking, and showing visitors around the Farm House, the Sharing Garden, Henson-Hall Slave Garden, and the Goshen Farm Apiary.

TO DO ITEMS

- Continue with review and edits for GFPS’ projects

NOTE

- September 2016 = 163 overall memberships; September 2017 = 23 overall memberships
- August 2015 – 155 overall memberships; August 2016 = 163 overall memberships
- July 2015 = 152 overall memberships; July 2016 = 160 overall memberships

NEW BUSINESS

None at this time

Mission: The mission of the Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Inc., is to restore, preserve, and protect Goshen Farm.

Vision: The vision of the Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Inc., is the restoration of Goshen Farm as an historic site and the preservation of its 22 acres as an educational center and cultural resource for present and future generations. The Society is dedicated to documenting and sharing the unique legacy of Goshen Farm, originally patented in 1663 as "Leonard's Neck."