

FOTF MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019.

8 CROSS ROAD, AMHERST NH, DONNA RILEY'S HOME

Attending: Donna, Toby, Tatum, Barb, Silvano, Erin, new-guy-name-unknown-Chris?

10:35am Opening:

Tatum read “??”

Tatum lit the Candle

Introductions check-in-go-around: What is good *at* the farm?

Barb – SILVANO!

Donna – Community?

Silvano – ?

Tatum – Benjamin's meditation, Silvano's flags, buckwheat

Toby – grilled cheese & tomato on farm bread

Erin – ?

New guy – this meeting to learn more about the farm

Approval of the minutes from August 20, 2019 - I don't recall that we approved the minutes....

Request that the minutes be more generic? That's a good thing because I'm having trouble remembering what was discussed and Toby's notes aren't jogging my memory.

Silvano emphasized that the farm is in transition, and shared what he feels should be addressed:

- 1) People's (i.e. farmers) needs aren't being met (Jacob leaving is prime example, Dane and Maija have no place to live and we may lose him to The Root, Kimberton farming over 2000 acres (what does this mean??))

- a) We need apprentices, dairy and farming
 - a. We need to attract better people, like Rosie, who created ??? that led to a \$6000 grant
- 2) Milk system STILL needs to be completed
- 3) Loafing shed can be repaired and extended for \$10,000 and would last 5 years with those improvements; how to raise \$10,000?
- 4) Farm equipment
- 5) Resting fields
- 6) High Mowing – students do not get farm food, they get junk
- 7) Greenhouse – Jacob was given go ahead to get it up but when he asked for funds was told a work party would be created, which will never happen because everyone is too busy

Possible Solutions?

- 1) Capital Fund – there has been no communication, ergo no contributions
- 2) \$100,000 loan would cost \$14,000
 - a. Members could raise this by contributing \$210 each
- 3) We need better communication with members
 - a. Thank you notes for people who help harvest
 - b. Tatum's kids will create the cards!!
- 4) Ask the BOD for its Master Plan, Core Strategic Plan
- 5) We need to establish deadlines so things actually get done
 - a. We need to make people accountable – how do we do this?
 - b. Is accountability against the original aims and intentions?
- 6) FOTFA needs permanent slot to report to BOD
- 7) What is our relationship with Yggdrasil?
- 8) We need a list of what IS working
- 9) Utilize our direct resource – the farm campus
 - a. Support – bring a friend to harvest
 - b. Community energy
 - c. Spiritual warriors

Help! I don't know what to call this list....

- 1) First Aid Kits
- 2) Silvano's birthday gift (we presented the donations today)
- 3) Dane's Plan
- 4) Appreciate BOD

5) Tatum's and Alex's INSTAGRAM

6) FOTFA website

- a. Erin has created websites before and estimates cost to be \$100/yr
- b. We should not depend on one person to maintain it
- c. Remember when the TWCFarm website almost came down because Andrew was the only person notified when the renewal wasn't done on time and he had left the farm?

7) What is the process of becoming a farmer?

8) Do what you love and want to contribute

9) List of opportunities:

- a. Member packet – Erin has been working on this?
- b. Brochure – Erin wrote something for newsletter?
- c. T-shirts
- d. Winter classes
- e. Names of fundraisers
- f. Tatum: families to make items for community
- g. Tatum suggested a talent Auction – donations from members
- h. Website platform/newsletter

Closing: Madeline recited “??”

Next meeting Oct 15th, 2019