

KATAMA FARM STEWARSHIP COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 4, 2021

Present: Varkonda, Steinberg, Michel, Avakian, Athearn, Carlson, Rose

Minutes of January 28, 2021: Michel motion to approve, Avakian second. Unanimous by roll call vote.

Varkonda sent out the revised draft rfp's again, and email from Karen Burke, since thought she sent them out last night and apparently did not hit the all important send button.

The committee reviewed the redlined version of the education rfp. Avakian asked if he leases go out with the rfp. It was noted that likely only a draft since the lease negotiations will take place when and if an rfp is accepted by the Commission.

Varkonda noted that questions from the public will occur after the committee had discussed questions and concerns and that input should be limited to questions and not commentary. Julie Scott asked if the rfp or lease would state when the property could be inhabited.

After some discussion Avakian motion to approve education rfp, Steinberg second. Unanimous by roll call vote.

The committee reviewed the redlined version of the farming rfp.

Avakian asked if the deposit could be credited towards the rent. The rfp did allow for that and unsuccessful bidders deposits are returned.

Michel asked if this is a Notice of Lease that should be recorded or may be recorded. Varkonda noted that the lastest change in the lease was a Notice of Lease that she believed had been recorded.

Attachment 3 should have a comma between committee and club (second to last sentence).

Attachment 4 should read: “for the Lease of Katama Farm for the Operation of Farming operations” instead of “for the lease of Katama Farm for the Operation of Educational programming”.

Avakian motion to approve the farming rfp, Steinberg second. Roll call vote: Carlson, Michel, Steinberg, Varkonda, Rose, yes; Athearn abstained.

Michel updated the committee on his recent conversation with the Burke family who abut the farm on two sides. The property is on the market. Varkonda noted that she had not called the Burke family back yet after she and Michel spoke over the weekend.

The committee discussed the time line for the RFP process. Michel noted that Karen should be asked if the timeline is calendar or business days. Michel motioned for three weeks based on calendar days. Athearn motioned to approve, Avakian seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Utilities were discussed. Carlson noted that getting separate electric service out there was going to be nearly impossible in the short term due to the track record of Eversource. Varkonda noted that she had not had time to reach out to the person who last work for TTOR re: wells, but that Sam had given her the info. Lindsay noted that eversource bills separately for the katama barn, cow barn and office/kitchen. Sam noted that there is one meter for the two wells. Julie noted that an additional electric meter to the west of the parking area that served the meals in the meadow tent and the greenhouses, and that the greenhouse outlet was not functioning.

The Commission discussed the pre bid meeting and voted that it would not occur but bidders could email Varkonda with questions. Also voted was that an on site visit would be scheduled for one day at a specific time. Avakian motion, Carlson second, unanimous by roll call vote.

The committees asked Varkonda to get information from Karen as to how the rubric are to be scored by the committee and the process should be followed.

Varkonda motioned to adjourn at 1:48. Unanimous by roll call vote.

Approved.