

Wakeman Town Farm Full Committee Meeting

March 2, 2026

Meeting Convened: 6:15 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 7:15 pm

Committee Members Present: Bill Constantino, Nicole Gerber, Liz Milwe, Nancy Plotkin, Danna Rogers, Judy Sloan, Jaime Smith

Others Present: Alice Ely, John Montoni, Judy Panzer, David Rosenwaks, Noelle Stomich, Chryse Terrill

Newborn Lamb Update

- During the month of February WTF offered 30-minute long Lamb Cuddle sessions.
- This program was very successful in terms of:
 - teaching our community about caring and feeding newborn farm animals
 - adding winter programming
 - fundraising
 - increasing pool of available WTF animal care volunteers
- The Lamb Cuddle program will be ending within the next week.

EGGStravaganza

- Scheduled for April 4th at 10:30 am
- Sponsors: Danna Rogers & Jen Kass at The Higgins Group.
- Granola Bar and Sweet P will provide refreshments.
- Egg hunt, lawn games, tattoos, face painting, Westport Book Shop, chicken sponsorships and a life size bunny will all be a part of the day.
- Currently working on getting volunteers for all activities.

Barn Update

- New barn will likely be made from pre-fab materials.
- Meeting with Town of Westport to discuss next steps will take place within the next month.
- Targeting construction to begin this Fall.

Education Update

Farm On The Go

- We have coordinated 8 Farm On The Go programs with our main partners: Hall House, Caroline House and Homes with Hope. Age group is Pre-K and Kindergarten.
- Most recent visit was today at Caroline House:
 - One of the lambs was brought to Caroline House to allow the children to have hands-on interaction with the lamb.
 - The children also read a book and did a craft about lambs.

Winter Programming

- Winter programs will end by 3/13.
- Partnership with Suzuki Music School was very successful. We will consider having them join us on Saturdays this summer during Farm Stand hours.
- STAR Winter Cooking 5-week program resumed today with Ellen Goldman.
- Wakeman Town Farm Knitting Circle March 10th (drop in)
 - Committee member Judy Sloan runs this drop-in class from 9:30-11:30

Spring Programming

- Registration opened 2/26.
- 24 program sessions will be offered March-June.
- Spring inclusive neurodiverse farmer program starts 3/28. Spots are still available.
- 4/27-5/8: first and second graders from Westport Public Schools will visit WTF. Volunteers will be needed.

Summer Farm Camp Registration

- Registration opened 2/2
- We offer 3 different age groups: Little Farmers, Junior Farmers, and Green Teen. Sign-ups in all 3 age groups are going well.
- Green Teen will add a culinary piece to teach how to use food from WTF to help create a farm to table meal.

Carver Foundation

- March thru April: we will be partnering with the Carver Foundation to do a 6-week sustainability enrichment program at Brookside School in Norwalk.

- Our Lead Educator, Chryse, will lead a one hour after school enrichment program for 5 consecutive weeks at the school.
- The 6th and final week will be at WTF for a hands-on experience tying in all topics they learned.

Community Fun Day for SPED March 21st at Greens Farms Elementary

- Leann will represent WTF at this event
- Leann will do seed planting with the children and talk about WTF farm programs, especially our inclusive neurodiverse program.

High School Internship Summer Program

- Noelle will be meeting with our Farmers to review the internship outline and candidates.

Upcoming Events:

- 4/6: Wild About Veggies (adult class) in Tim's Kitchen
- Maple Syrup Boil date to be provided once sap is ready
- 6/27: jUNe Day. Will need 3 committee members to lead tours
- */18: Family Fun Day

Parks & Rec Summer Kickoff Event: 5/23 11:00 am-3:00 pm

- WTF will have a table at the event and will showcase some of our WTF animals, WTF camp, sell WTF merchandise and potentially have one of our farmers lead a discussion about our vegetable gardens.
- Committee members are encouraged to attend/volunteer at the event. If interested, please contact Bill Constantino.

Westport 250/'Back In The Day'

- Currently working on making several of the ideas from last months' brainstorm session come to fruition.
- At Family Fun Day crafts such as quill pen writing with chicken feathers, corn husk dolls, hoop and stick games, and a community weave will likely all be included at the event.

March 3, 2026

cc: Liz Milwe and Bill Constantino, Co-Chairs Wakeman Town Farm Committee