

**DRAFT**

**Game Farm Road Board Meeting**

Town of Berne  
PO Box 57  
Berne, NY 12023

**Date:** January 5, 2016

**Present:** Ted Kunker (Chair), Mark Hohengasser, Mark Sengenberger, Lee Jones, Richard Ronconi, Diane Kingston, Karen Schimmer and several interested citizens

Mr. Kunker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the December meeting were not available. They will be reviewed at the next meeting.

New Board member, Diane Kingston, was welcomed.

**Old Business:**

**WinterFest:** Scheduled for February 27, 2016 with registration at 9:00 AM and event to begin at 10:00 AM. A 5-k snowshoe race will be coordinated by Capital Region Nordic Alliance – Snow Shoe leader Tom Wright and Bob Dion. Snowshoes will be available for a \$5 rental. Other activities discussed were ice skating on pond (liability issues will be checked with Town Attorney), hiking on marked trails, a bonfire, snowpeople contest, food truck for concessions, a biathlon with snowshoes and paintball, wildlife show/display, and a Berne Library bake sale. Local advertising and a brochure will be completed. Ms. Schimmer will check on Port-A-John availability. Mr. Kunker will check with participating group(s) about insurance coverage.

**Forever Rural:** It was noted that Forever Rural has received the \$5,000 grant donation from OSI's Citizen Action Program. After the 8% OSI administration fee, the Town will receive \$4,600 for GFR marketing efforts.

**Working Group on Land:** Will report at next meeting on suggestions for a five-site camping area. The Town Attorney will be contacted regarding any liability relating to public swimming in the pond. Discussion on building and operating a warming hut on select weekends.

**Pro-Forma Discussion:** Use of the property was discussed and corresponding rates and fees were reviewed. A new scale was proposed with fees being hourly, half-day or daily with a fee reduction for Town residents. Board agreed that a Town employee be present during events - or at least at the beginning and end - at a rate of \$16/hour.

**Working Group on Facilities:** There was discussion on making the lodge handicap accessible with ramps and an ADA bathroom. Help from the community is needed to proceed with improvements. Sue Hawkes-Teeter said she would contact the school about help from student clubs. A community service committee is being formed. Mr. Hohengasser and Ms. Kingston are applying for a grant through Lowes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hill Brown  
GFR Board Secretary

cc. file