



2019 Annual Report: Stewardship Committee

Hidden Acres

The Conservation and Preservation Easement has been established to protect Hidden Acres Farm from future development, and to conserve, preserve and maintain the unique characteristics of Hidden Acres Farm substantially in its present scenic and open space condition, which taken as a whole, is endowed with scenic, agricultural, architectural and historical significance, the conservation and preservation of which is important to the public and will serve the public interest in a manner consistent with New Hampshire RSA 477:45-47 and RSA chapter 227-M. This Easement also allows for access to the 6-acre, town-owned parcel that abuts Hidden Acres Farm to the southwest. Newton is lucky to have the ability to preserve Hidden Acres Farm, an intact and well-preserved example of a small, southern New Hampshire farmstead eligible for the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places that includes a house, six outbuildings, pond, field gates, stone walls, pasture fields and a wood lot, which, in their agricultural setting embody the gradual development of the New Hampshire Farm over the centuries. Our mission is to preserve The Farmstead Area for single-family residential uses as described by the Newton zoning ordinance as of the date of this Easement, for Residential A Zones, consistent with its preservation values as described and defined in the Farmstead Area Baseline Documentation prepared by Elizabeth Durfee-Hengen for the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, dated September 2002, copies of which are on file with the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, Concord, NH and at the Newton Conservation Commission.

The Stewardship Committee works closely with the homeowner to maintain the Conservation Easement. Multiple site-walks are conducted through-out the year, by the committee and landowner. Annual reports are submitted to Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (referred to as LCHIP). This year the landowner (at his expense) has repaired or replaced much of the siding on some of the outbuildings which include the barn and milk-room, and added a new door on the milk-room. The Newton Residents are constantly stopping by to see the farm and the homeowner.

The Committee Members are: Trisha McCarthy-Chairperson

Mary Marshall, Nancy Slombo, Carolyn Pekalsky, Ted Pekalsky, Mike Seekamp, Barbara DiBartolomeo