

## Draft Minutes of the July 14, 2021 meeting of the Charlestown Agricultural Preservation Committee

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:11PM by President Noel Rowe.
2. Those present were Noel Rowe, Sue Barrett, Jane Durning and John Barrett.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting on 4/28/21 were reviewed and approved.
4. Old Business - At our meeting of 4/28/21 Michael Merner said Jane Durning is interested in using her land as a destination for people for short term (24-48 hour) visits. Mike suggested at that time that Jane appear at our next meeting (this meeting) with her list of what she would like to see happen so we can all discuss it.
5. Jane Durning spoke tonight about the concept of "tenter" and explained that there is a company called TENTERR (at [TENTERR.COM](http://TENTERR.COM)) which supplies a platform for the tent, two Adirondack chairs and a composting bucket for the tent residents (no more than five people per tent). She explained that it is up to the landowner if they want to sell firewood, ice, dig fire pits etc. The landowner sets the price.  
Jane also spoke about "Harvest Host" which involves self-contained RVs for 2-5 days at a price. This is facilitated by Harvest Host which is responsible for advertising, insurance etc. Again, the landowner can add firewood, a canoe or a kayak etc. as they see fit.  
In these two methods (TENTERR and Harvest Host) the landowner sets the price for the spot and any extras that are available.  
After explaining these two avenues to attracting people to her property, Jane then said that none of this is allowed in the Charlestown Comprehensive Plan right now. Jane wants to get us (the CAPC) and the Charlestown Tourism Group on board with this. She stressed that both TENTERR and Harvest Host were for "big land" where sites are pretty much away and out of sight of each other and the road.  
Noel Rowe said he will draft a letter about all this and send it out to us (the CAPC group) to read and think about.
6. In the discussion that followed Jane's talk it was pointed out that even though the individual farms cannot do anything like TENTERR or Harvest Host right now, the town of Charlestown rents out the whole of Ninigret Park for \$5,000 and the park is basically closed for the Rhythm and Roots concert and to get in you have to buy a ticket.
7. Public Comment - There was none.
8. Adjournment - After setting the date of our next meeting for October 13, 2021, Noel Rowe motioned for adjournment and John Barrett seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.