TEA LANE FARM – Suggestions from Virginia C. Jones 22 February, 2010

1. Goal should be to maintain the appearance of the Farm -- which is much loved by the Townspeople, and visitors, essentially as it is. Thus, repairs or alterations to the house or barn should be very carefully considered. Repairs for structural reasons should be undertaken in the same design and materials as original if possible. Successful applicants should be made aware of and agree to the recommendations of the current Master Plan and updates.

The house should be used as a residence for a farmer who will actually farm the balance of the Town owned land. Preference should be given to long standing town residents, and to families. Rent should be kept at an affordable level (perhaps a fee for the house, and then additional fees for each acre farmed.) An agreement should be drafted, negotiated and signed covering all proposed uses, including repairs, alterations, and uses so that terms of any agreement are clearly understood.

2. Farmer should be allowed to raise animals and or agricultural products which will result in products to be sold at either the Farmer's Market or at a Farm Stand (beef, sheep, pigs, poultry, vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers, honey). Exotic animals (llamas, alpacas, miniature deer, etc.) would not be encouraged. Similarly, invasive species (bamboo, etc.) would not be allowed.

3. If land is available, either from the Town or the Land Bank, and IF it does not impact the uses of the resident farmers, allotments could be made available to qualified Town Residents for growing vegetables and fruits.

4. Use of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, and other "ides" are not allowed.