



Town of Andover

17 SCHOOL ROAD • ANDOVER, CT 06232

To: Zoning Agent, Town of Andover CT

From: Joseph Wagner, Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agent

Date: August 31st, 2021

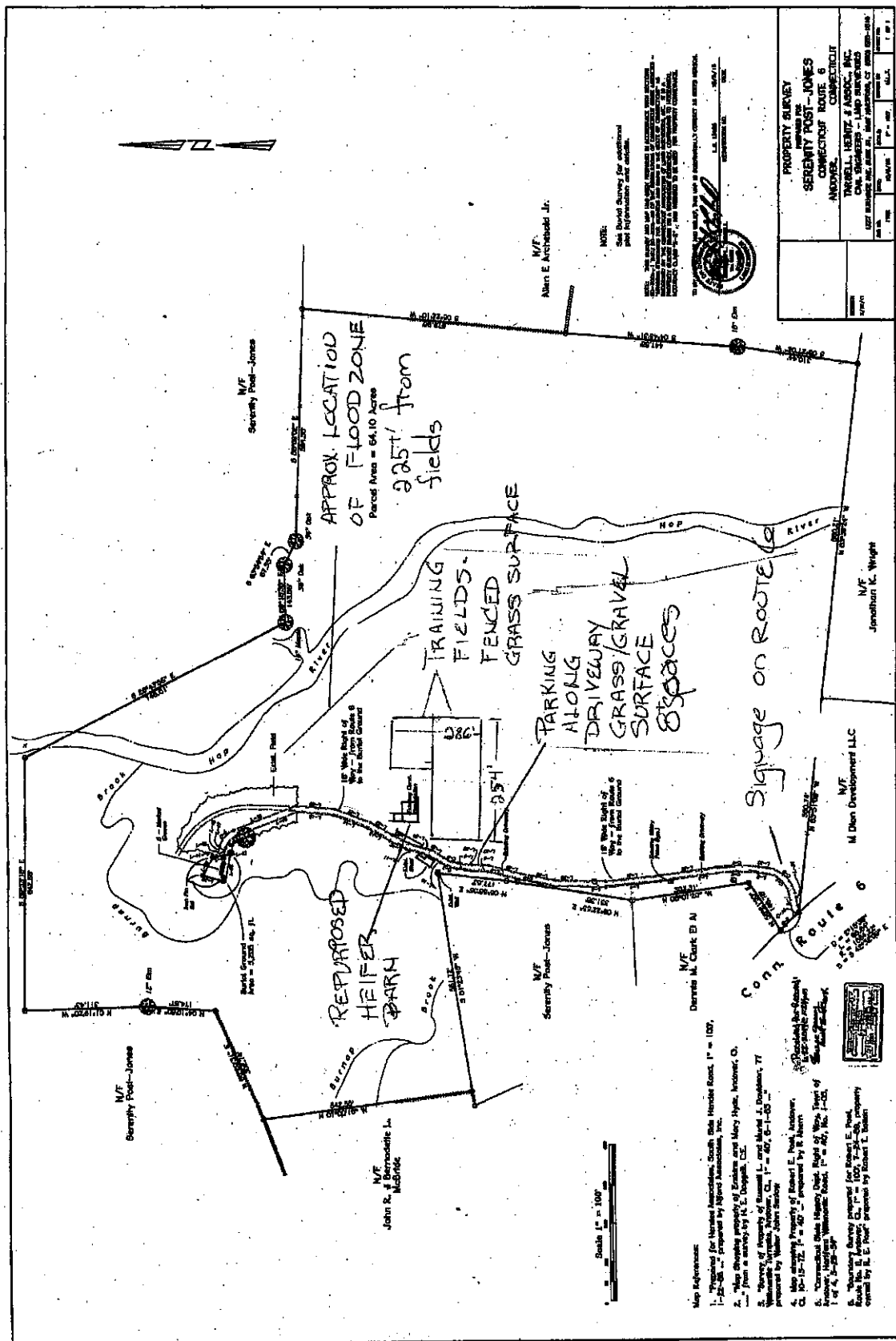
Subject: PZC #21-05 Application, 241 Route 6, Beebe- Amendment to previously granted Special Permit

After review of the application PZC #21-05 and its supporting materials, it was determined that no new activity (deposition or removal of fill, construction of buildings or driveways, or other regulated activities) has been proposed—therefore, no permit application will be required by the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

Joseph Wagner

Wetlands Agent, Town of Andover

wetlands@andoverct.org



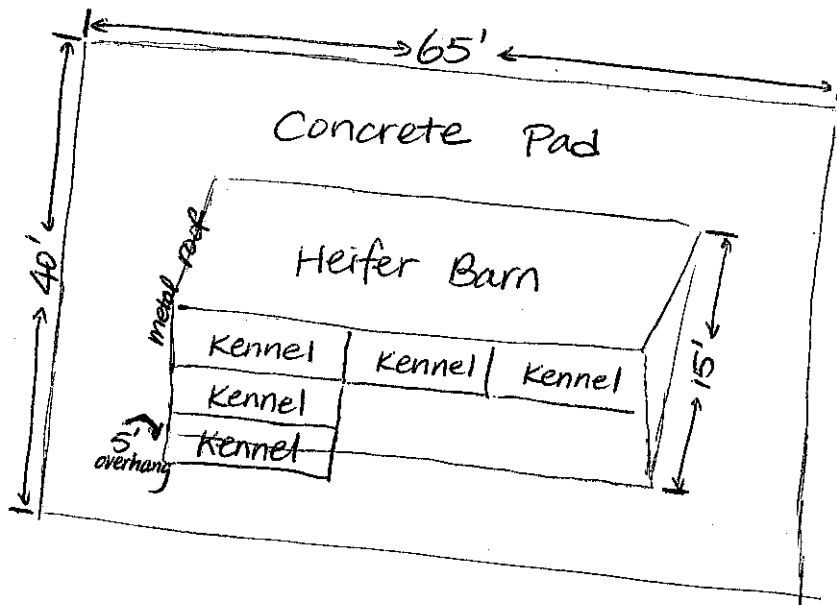
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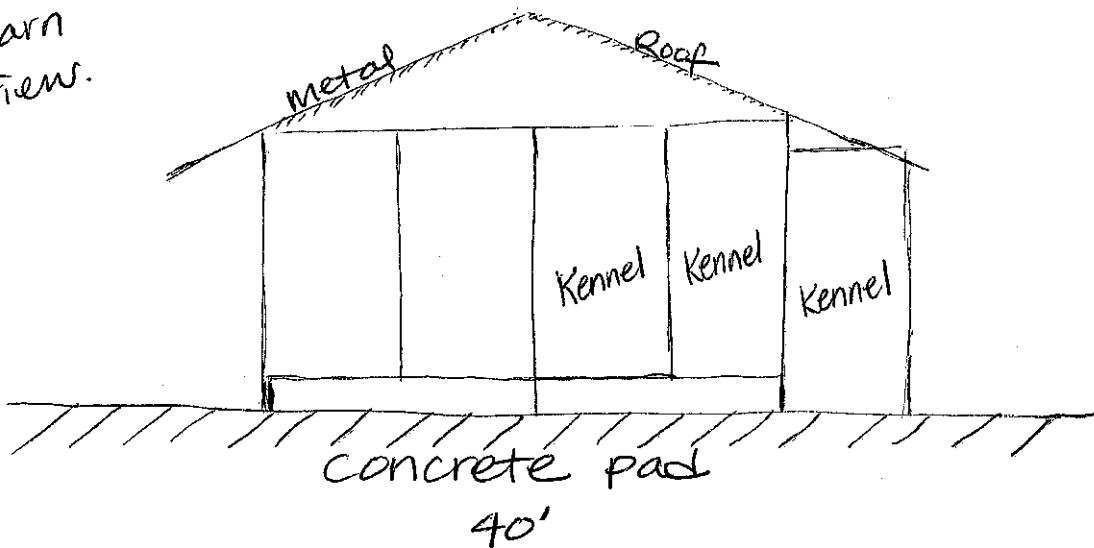
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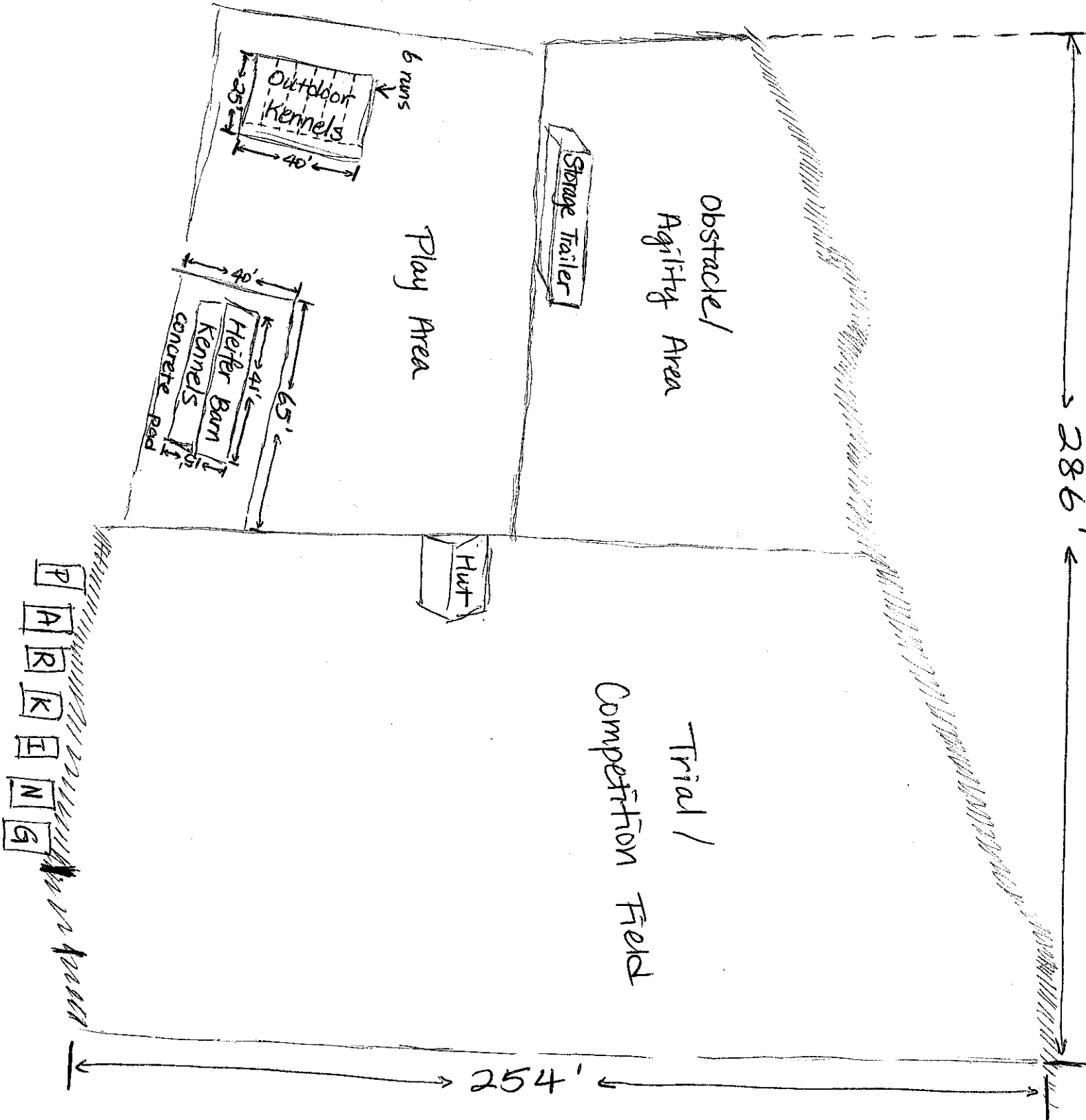
Existing
Heifer Barn
Top view.
(Floor plan)



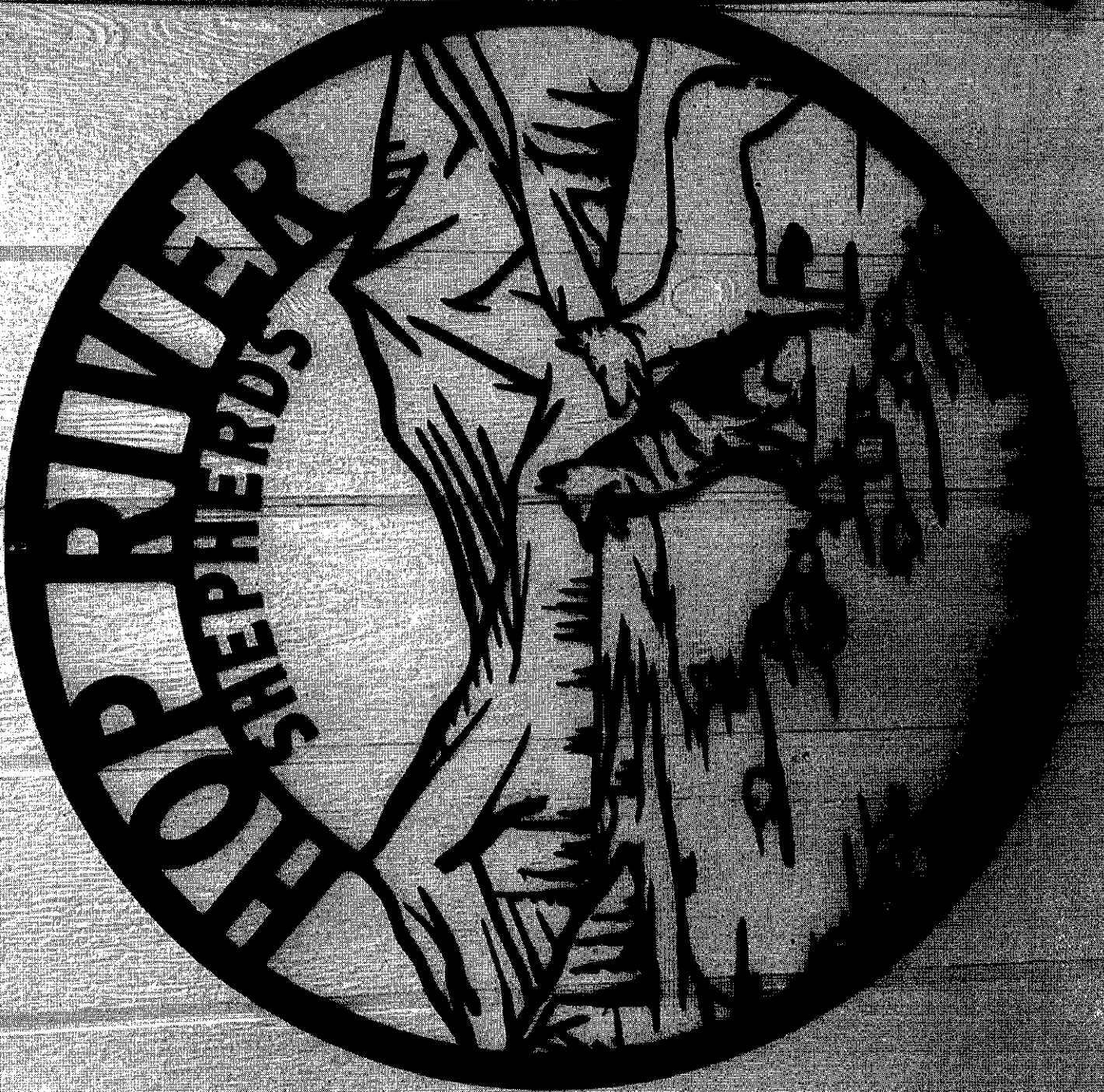
Heifer Barn
side view.



☐ Porta
Potty



3 1/2" radius
metal sign.



Narrative of service provided by Hop River Shepherds prepared for the Andover, CT Planning and Zoning Commission

August 24, 2021

Hop River Shepherds LLC was established in 2006 by Scott Beebe and Stacie Rhault. In 2011, we received approval from the town of Andover to board, train, and groom dogs, as well as offer a doggie daycare program. In July of 2020, Scott Beebe became the sole owner of the business and therefore was required to reapply for a new special permit. The business is located on a 200 acre farm. Hop River Shepherds provides dog training of all breeds by appointment, and work primarily on veterinary referrals. Our hours are 8:30am-5:00pm Monday through Saturday.

Our facility consists of three training areas. All are well maintained grass areas and none are within 50 feet of any stream, water body or wetlands. One field is a championship level competition field that provides field training for dogs competing around the world. We have had trainers from France, Belgium, Mexico and Guadeloupe at our facility over the years to help and critique our dogs! One field is an obstacle course/agility area where we build confidence in dogs and handlers. We also use this area as an exercise area with a double 5 feet fence. The third area is a heifer barn with 20 dog kennel runs. It is a roofed outdoor kennel for holding and boarding daycare dogs. All kennel runs have escape proof flooring with leveled pea stone, welded wire, or mason professional series sides. They are to ensure the safety of our dogs and clients' dogs. They are cleaned daily and disinfected between dogs. We use WyshiWash to sanitize and disinfect our facility, which are chlorinated pool capsules. It is designed and approved to use in commercial kitchens to kennels, and everything in between.

There is a gravel parking area for 6-8 cars, and a separate handicapped parking spot. We also have a waste removal company that comes every other week for pickup. Over the years, we have continued to improve the facility and clean up around the property. Our business is required to maintain regulations set by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. The state will regularly inspect our facility. They last visited in Spring of 2020 and found our business to meet all their requirements.

Up until recently, Hop River Shepherds was utilized by the town for all animal related calls. We have provided safety for the Andover town residents for the last 3-4 years. During this time, my personal business and equipment were utilized, which includes cleaning supplies, vehicles, phones, etc.

Our training of dogs consists of basic obedience, competition obedience, scent/nosework, tracking and agility. Those are offered as private sessions with their owners. They are by appointment only, usually an hour long each lesson and hours are from 9am-5pm. We offer a day training program where clients drop off their dogs in the morning between 8am-9am and get picked up in the afternoon by 5:30pm. All dogs are kenneled separately and receive individual and group setting training throughout the day. We also own a bus with 17 crates, which allows us to take dogs out in public for training.

For the last 6 years, I have been the head trainer for Forever in My Heart Foundation, which is a program that trains service dogs for veterans at no charge; the only organization in Connecticut to do so. We oversee the dog training program at Niantic Women's Prison and are proud to say that I now have 5 fully trained dogs that are serving veterans with various tasks. We have also trained with multiple local police departments, and still assist Rocky Hill, CT K-9, Manchester, CT K-9, Meriden CT K-9, and Lebanon, New Hampshire K-9. For the past three years, we have been invited to teach at the Vermont Police Academy.

We train, breed, and compete around the world with our own dogs. Our breeding program has provided police dogs for the local law enforcement, as well as search and rescue and avalanche dogs for British Columbia, Canada. Along with service dogs provided for veterans we have trained a cardiac alert/mobility dog for a 25 year old collage girl.

The most important thing to me is that the board realizes several people's livelihoods are at stake. I have two employees and myself who have continued to work throughout the Co-Vid pandemic without any assistance. I have three children in college who all attended Andover Elementary School.. I have been a property owner in town for 25 years, and have rented the field at the farm for the last 20 years. There has never been a complaint about my business. I have always supported this community, and my business has paid all property taxes to the town on all my equipment. I am committed to continuing to run my business at the highest of standards in this community. I hope the information shared in this report gives the board a clear picture of the services my business provides and allows you to vote with confidence to approve my request for a special permit.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott W. Beebe