

North Hampton Agriculture Commission

Meeting Minutes: 04/18/16 FINAL

Present: Cindy Jenkins (Chair), Bobbi Burns, Lisa Cote, Dieter Ebert, Joan Ganotis, and Walter Nordstrom

Opened meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Previous Meeting Minutes – All action items completed.

Motion: Approve minutes from 3/21/16

1st: W. Nordstrom

2nd: B. Burns

Motion passed, 4-0; J. Ganotis abstained, D. Ebert not yet present.

Membership - J. Ganotis welcomed as new member. C. Jenkins suggested that some people may be interested in keeping up with Agriculture Committee efforts even if not currently interested in membership, i.e. “friends of ag com.”

Community Garden – 2 introduction meetings and 1 work session successfully conducted. 2 full and 3 half plots still available. L. Cote noted how beautiful the gardens look. C. Jenkins agreed to continue managing the effort until a champion can be found. D. Ebert suggested possibly winterizing the rototiller at the end of the season. 1 gardner is planning to supply bees. L. Cote will provide a hive. 1 gardner has built a soil sifter for use by the group. J. Ganotis noted that UNH Coop Ext has extensive information on their website regarding community gardens which Ag com can use for future use.

Motion: Approve spending of up to \$120 for woodchips and manure by W. Nordstrom.

1st: B. Burns

2nd: L. Cote

Motion passed, 5-0, W. Nordstrom abstained

Motion: Approve \$50 for trash removal by D. Ebert

1st: W. Nordstrom

2nd: L. Cote

Motion passed, 5-0, D. Ebert abstained

Motion: Approve \$40.87 in expenses by C. Jenkins for 2 meetings and workday session

1st: L. Cote

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed, 5-0, C. Jenkins abstained

Motion: Approve \$103.64 expense by C. Jenkins to fix rototiller

1st: L. Cote

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed, 5-0, C. Jenkins abstained

Election of Officers – Tabled for 1 more meeting. D. Ebert and J. Ganotis considering chairmanship.

Funding – Discussion regarding possibility of carryover of funds from year to year. C. Jenkins noted that a warrant article was written for this purpose but never put forth. Commission will review possibility of moving forward with it.

Town Anniversary – Discussion on whether to have an agriculture day or tractor parade as part of town 275th anniversary.

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Barn Survey – J. Ganotis attended Barn Survey workshop. Items of note included the need to keep surveys up once conducted and the continuing loss of barns. All agreed a survey makes sense. An Eagle Scout project is forming to conduct an initial survey which will include locations and pictures of all barns in town. C. Jenkins will attend the Heritage meeting to discuss particulars. Agreement that all barns over a certain age should be included whether being used for animals, storage or human housing.

Motion: Approve \$10 fee for barn survey workshop attended by J. Ganotis

1st: B. Burns

2nd: W. Nordstrom

Motion passed, 5-0, J. Ganotis abstained

Other Business – SELT is putting together a database of farms producing food for the public. W. Nordstrom and D. Ebert think 1 farm in town should be considered.

Discussion on hemlock wooly adelgid.

D. Ebert noted possibility of expanded use of school greenhouses was discussed at kindergarten orientation session. All agreed this would be a positive development.

Action Items:

Provide pricing for mowing of community garden. – D. Ebert

Poll individuals for inclusion as “friends of agriculture committee” – C. Jenkins

Verify if there is a farm in town producing food for sale to the public for inclusion by SELT – W. Nordstrom

Link to UNH Coop Ext info on hemlock wooly adelgid from Ag Com webpage on town website – C. Jenkins

Create new article for Library newsletter – C. Jenkins

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

1st: W. Nordstrom

2nd: D. Ebert

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by B. Burns

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016; 7:00 pm, Town Hall