

NORTH HAMPTON AGRICULTURE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - 11/20/17 - FINAL

Meeting opened at 7:15 p.m.

Present: Dieter Ebert (Chair), Cindy Jenkins, Hank Brandt and Joan Ganotis

Absent: Lisa Cote, Bobbi Burns and Walter Nordstrom

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve minutes from 10/16/17

1st: C. Jenkins

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Garden/Community Newsletter article - Dieter received a request for a submission from the Ag Comm. on the community garden for the community newsletter. Cindy will prepare a paragraph or two and submit it to Susan Grant before the mid-January deadline.

Farmer's Market - Hank said there is still a stalemate with Southeast Land Trust. He shared his plans to add 6-10 horse stalls off the cellar of his antique barn. He should be receiving a building permit soon. He also told us of the NRCS request for a water line for his cows which required a flat area to place water troughs and cement blocks to serve as a retaining wall on the hillside below the flat area.

School Greenhouse - Since Lisa, our contact with the school greenhouse, was unable to attend the meeting, there was no update.

Ag Comm calendar - Bobbi started a calendar with some deadlines we need to be aware of including every March when members' terms expire (2018 Bobbi and Hank's terms expire), community newsletter deadlines, dates for posting meeting agendas each month, fiscal year-end in June, garden sign-ups in April, garden clean-up in fall and fall budget due date. We will keep adding items to the calendar as they come up each month.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion of the limit to the number of members on the Ag Comm. Cindy looked up the RSA 673:4-b which states, "The agricultural commission shall consist of not less than 3 members and no more than 7 members who shall be appointed in a manner as prescribed by the local legislative body... Not more than 5 alternate members may be appointed."

Dieter said we will read the code of ethics once a year.

Cindy suggested we get in touch with Henry Marsh, our local legislator, for any bills concerning the Agriculture Commission. She reminded us there is a new Commissioner of Agriculture in NH.

Barn Survey - Joan shared the Barn Book, Volume 2, which now includes 11 barns surveyed. There is one more survey tentatively scheduled for early Dec. and that may be the end until spring. 34 letters have been sent out to residents with some of the oldest houses/barns, and 14 responses were received.

Guide to Open Government Meeting - Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. The town has arranged for someone to come to educate board members on how to properly chair/post/run town board/commission meetings. All board/commission members are invited. Dieter plans to attend.

Dieter said the North Hampton Master Plan is now available online on the town website, and he has been reading it to check for agriculture references.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Adjourn at 9:38 p.m.

1st: H. Brandt

2nd: C. Jenkins

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by J. Ganotis. Next Meeting: Monday, December 18, 2017; 7 p.m., Town Clerk's Office