

Meeting Minutes: 01/21/2020

DRAFT

Present: Dieter Ebert (Chair), Audrey Prior (Vice Chair), Hank Brandt, Joan Ganotis, and Cindy Jenkins; **Absent:** Lisa Cote (alternate), Walter Nordstrom (alternate), Bobbi Burns (non-member, secretary)

1. Opened meeting at 7:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve the minutes from 12/16/2019 as amended.

1st: J. Ganotis

2nd: C. Jenkins

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

3a. Community Garden and Rules – A. Prior attended the 01/13/2019 meeting of the Select Board. Town Counsel had proposed minor changes to the Community Garden Waiver. The Select Board approved the waiver with these revisions and requested that the document be formatted to meet specifications for town documents. A. Prior is in contact with Interim Town Administrator Tully about the formatting and revisions and hopes to have the final document to present at the next meeting. Once this document has been finalized A. Prior will contact the Town Offices to work out how the paperwork and payments will be handled for garden sign-ups this spring.

C. Jenkins is going to reach out to gardeners who rented plots last year to see if they will be continuing this year. C. Jenkins would also like to modify the garden sign-up sheets to make it clear that their purpose is to express interest in having a garden plot and that adding your name does not guarantee you a plot. The commission discussed the need to create a set of procedures to follow so that the sign-up process is clear. Part of these procedures would be the establishment of a waiting list policy should a waiting list be needed.

3b. Barn Survey – J. Ganotis brought printed copies of the Barn Survey, Volume 2 to the meeting. A total of five copies were made. One will be at the Stone Building/Town Clerk's Office and one will be at the Public Library for public access. The Barn Survey can also be accessed online through the Agricultural Commission's page on the Town of North Hampton website. The original survey will be given to the North Hampton Historical Society to be placed in storage with the original copy of Volume 1.

Motion: To approve reimbursement in the amount of \$480.29 to J. Ganotis for the Barn Survey Volume 2.

This reimbursement covers the cost of the five printed copies and a digital copy on a flashdrive.

1st: H. Brandt

2nd: C. Jenkins.

Motion passed unanimously.

3c. Town Newsletter Submission and Annual Report: J. Ganotis submitted the Annual Report and newsletter article for the next edition of the town newsletter.

C. Jenkins shared some ideas for future newsletter articles, based on topics from the Farm, Forest & Garden Expo: Soil Health, microbes, and soil building; alternatives to pesticides and herbicides; forest stewardship; controlling invasive plants; barn preservation; herbs and their uses; poultry; seed starting; maple syrup production; and, pruning.

3d. Agricultural Commission Funds: The Select Board has approved a warrant article that, if passed, will allow the Agricultural Commission to have its own fund rather than depositing into and expending from the general fund.

4. New Business

4a. Barn Presentation and Tour: J. Ganotis attended a meeting of the Historical Society to discuss holding a tour of historic barns. The barn tour is being planned for September and will involve seeing three or four historic barns in North Hampton with narration by John Porter, an expert on historic barns. The Historical Society is also interested in having John Porter do a presentation before Old Homes Day. This presentation will focus on his new book. The cost of having John Porter come to speak is \$100 plus approximately \$60 in mileage.

4b. Member Terms: Both D. Ebert and C. Jenkins have terms that expire in 2020. Both expressed interest in continuing on the Agricultural Commission.

4c. Goals: The commission reviewed the goals set in the Agricultural Chapter of the Master Plan. Some that the commission could begin working on this year include education on composting for soil improvement and arranging a school fieldtrip to the community garden.

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

1st: J. Ganotis

2nd: H. Brandt

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Audrey Prior. Next Meeting date & time: Feb. 17, 2020; 7:00 p.m.; Town Clerk's Office