

North Hampton Agricultural Commission

**Meeting Minutes: 02/20/2023**                      **FINAL**

**Present:** Audrey Prior (Chair), Joan Ganotis (Vice Chair), Dieter Ebert, Pollyanna Ford (alternate), Rowan Perkins (member of the public)

**Absent:** Hank Brandt, Phil Thayer, Cheryl Kasztejna (alternate)

1. Opened meeting at 7:11 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from 12/19/2022 as written.

1<sup>st</sup>: J. Ganotis

2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Ford

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from 01/16/2023 as written.

1<sup>st</sup>: A. Prior

2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

3a. Membership: D. Ebert, P. Thayer, P. Ford, and C. Kasztejna have terms expiring in 2023. D. Ebert and P. Ford expressed willingness to continue in their roles for another term. A. Prior will follow up with P. Thayer and C. Kasztejna.

**Motion:** To recommend the following reappointments to the Select Board:

Dieter Ebert, Regular Member, 3-year term

Pollyanna Ford, Alternate Member, 1-year term

1<sup>st</sup>: A. Prior

2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously.

R. Perkins expressed interest in becoming an alternate member. Agricultural Commission members discussed and feel that R. Perkins would be a good fit for the commission and would bring a passion for agriculture as well as a new perspective.

**Motion:** To recommend that the Select Board appoint Rowan Perkins as an Alternate Member for a 1-year term.

1<sup>st</sup>: J. Ganotis

2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Ford

Motion passed unanimously.

3b. Community Garden: A. Prior provided a summary of the comments received from Allyson Ryder and Bill Clapp (both members of the North Hampton Community Garden) at the Agricultural Commission's meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Commission members discussed the issues briefly, but agreed that meeting at the garden to discuss these concerns while at the site would be best. The suggestion was made to hold the March meeting at the North Hampton Community Garden and start an hour earlier so that there would still be daylight. The next meeting will be March 20, 2023 at the North Hampton Community Garden. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be at 7:00pm at the Town Clerk's Office. A. Prior will monitor the weather forecast and make the determination closer to the meeting.

3c. Goals for 2023: Two goals in the Agricultural Master Plan chapter are supposed to be completed by the end of 2023. The first is to host a speaker or write an article on Best Management Practices (BMPs) in agriculture. The second is to

host a speaker or write an article about New Hampshire's Current Use Program. The commission plans to update its brochure this year, and agreed that Current Use may be a good topic for the brochure. Links could be provided for people to find more information, along with a basic overview of what the program is and how it works. Other topics that had been previously discussed for the brochure, an article, or a speaker, include compost, protecting chickens from predators, rodents and pests, and goats.

3d. Newsletter articles/"Interview with a Farmer" project: The next newsletter article should be due in May. P. Ford will contact C. Kasztejna and work on the interview with a farmer article for this submission.

#### 4. New Business

No new business was addressed.

#### 5. Adjournment:

**Motion:** Adjourn at 8:22pm.

1<sup>st</sup>: J. Ganotis

2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Ebert

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Audrey Prior. Next meeting: March 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.; North Hampton Community Garden, Exeter Road, North Hampton, NH 03862 (across from Dearborn Park). In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on March 20, 2023 at 7:00pm at the North Hampton Town Clerk's Office, 237 Atlantic Ave, North Hampton, NH 03862.