

Meeting Minutes: 06/19/2023 **FINAL**

Present: Audrey Prior (Chair), Joan Ganotis (Vice Chair), Pollyanna Ford (alternate), Rowan Perkins (alternate)

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

1. Opened meeting at 7:09 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve the minutes from 05/15/2023 as written.

1st: J. Ganotis

2nd: P. Ford

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

3a and b. Community Newsletter and Brochure Update: Commission members discussed that the Current Use Program may not be the best topic for the next community newsletter article, which should be due in September for publication in October. After some discussion, members agreed that the Current Use Program and Best Management Practices (BMPs) could each be given a panel in the brochure, and additional space could be used to include a list of agricultural businesses in North Hampton. A. Prior will work on updating the brochure and all members will think of any additions to the list of agricultural businesses that they may be able to add. This leaves the next community newsletter article open for another topic. Commission members discussed doing another farm story like P. Ford wrote for the summer newsletter that was submitted in May.

3c. Goals for 2023: No other goals are due to be completed this year. The commission will focus on the brochure update including information on the Current Use Program and BMPs.

3d. Land Use Boards Annual Meeting: The annual Land Use Boards meeting will be held on June 22 at 6:30pm at the Town Hall. A. Prior and P. Ford will be the Agricultural Commission's representatives. The Agricultural Commission's agenda topics are the update to the brochure including information about the Current Use Program and BMPs, and the Community Garden. A. Prior and P. Ford will give an update on what is discussed at the Land Use Boards meeting at the July meeting of the Agricultural Commission.

3e. Community Garden: Things so far seem to be running fairly smoothly at the garden. The commission has identified several issues at the garden that need to be discussed and addressed, with a tentative goal of finalizing decisions and any updates to the rules this fall and/or winter so that the new rules are in place by early 2024. These issues include: a policy regarding the removal of personal property at the end of the growing season, possibly after a set clean up date in the fall; a policy regarding plots that have been paid for but are not being used or maintained; plot sizing and correcting the variations in plot size; aisle widths; and, fencing and whether to do a perimeter fence or continue with individual fences but standardize them, and what type of fencing would be best. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

4. New Business

4a. Meeting Date & Time: Due to lack of attendance by members at the last several meetings, the commission decided to discuss whether it would be better to move the meeting day or change the time. A. Prior will reach out to the members who have not been attending to see if a change of date would affect their attendance.

5. Adjournment:

Motion: Adjourn at 8:13pm.

1st: R. Perkins

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Audrey Prior. Next meeting: July 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the North Hampton Town Clerk's Office, 237 Atlantic Ave, North Hampton, NH 03862.