

**Meeting Minutes: 07/17/2023**                      **FINAL**

**Present:** Audrey Prior (Chair), Joan Ganotis (Vice Chair), Cheryl Kasztejna (alternate), Rowan Perkins (alternate), Keith Lincoln (member of the public)

**Absent:** Hank Brandt, Dieter Ebert, Phil Thayer, Pollyanna Ford (alternate)

1. Opened meeting at 7:06 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from 06/19/2023 as written.

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

2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Perkins

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

3a. Land Use Boards Annual Meeting: The annual Land Use Boards meeting was held on June 22 at 6:30pm at the Town Hall. A. Prior and P. Ford attended as the Agricultural Commission's representatives. The Agricultural Commission's agenda topics were the update to the brochure including information about the Current Use Program and BMPs, and the Community Garden. A. Prior gave a summary of what the other boards and commissions talked about at the meeting. The Heritage Commission is looking to complete a town-wide, comprehensive barn survey.

3b. Brochure Update: A. Prior presented a draft of the revised brochure to be discussed. Several revisions were suggested, and A. Prior will provide a new draft for review at the next meeting.

3c. Community Newsletter: The fall issue of the community newsletter is generally due mid-September for publication in mid to late October. The commission will discuss and choose a topic at the next meeting.

3d. Community Garden: The Commission discussed several updates to the garden rules and to the application/cover page. A. Prior will make the changes and provide an updated draft for the next meeting. New rules/procedures may be needed depending on what is decided about fencing and plot resizing as well. The Commission discussed creating a "garden manager" type position. Commission members need to decide what responsibilities this person or group would have, and what responsibilities would need to remain the duties of the Agricultural Commission. The Commission also needs to decide on a type of fencing so that pricing can be determined, and needs to identify fencing suppliers and installers, as well as contractors who could do the rototilling to resize the plots.

3e. Meeting date/time: After some discussion, commission members decided to keep the meetings at 7:00pm on the third Monday of each month. Moving the meeting date and/or time did not seem like it would have much of an impact on members' attendance. If members are not going to be able to attend, they are encouraged to send comments to A. Prior in advance of the meeting so that their thoughts can be shared during the relevant agenda items at the meeting. Lack of attendance is holding the commission back from making decisions, as commission members agree that it is important to be able to have as much participation as possible, and a well rounded discussion, especially when making major decisions.

4. New Business

4a. Budget: Budget proposals for the next fiscal year are usually requested in August to be submitted in early September. The commission discussed and A. Prior will request that the budget remain the same, and will write a letter

outlining the Agricultural Commission's current projects and the potential improvements at the garden as justification for the budget.

5. Adjournment:

**Motion:** Adjourn at 8:33pm.

1<sup>st</sup>: R. Perkins

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

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Audrey Prior. Next meeting: August 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the North Hampton Town Clerk's Office, 237 Atlantic Ave, North Hampton, NH 03862.