

North Hampton Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes: 3/18/19 DRAFT

Present: David Buchanan, Lisa Cote, Joan Ganotis, Cindy Jenkins, Bobbi Burns (non member, secretary) and Audrey Prior (member of the public)

Absent: Deter Ebert (Chair), Hank Brandt, and Walter Nordstrom (alternate)

Opened meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve minutes from 2/18/19

1st: D. Buchanan

2nd: L. Cote

Motion passed unanimously.

Master Plan Draft Ag Chapter– All were in agreement that J. Ganotis did a fantastic job. B. Burns will email goals 2.1 and 3.1 to the Conservation Chair to ensure their buy-in before moving forward. An offer will be made for J. Ganotis and D. Buchanan to attend a Conservation meeting to review the goals and hear their feedback.

Barn Survey – J. Ganotis will invite the Commissioner of Agriculture to provide a lecture on back yard chickens at the Library. Barn surveys will start again this spring.

Community Garden – April 20, 9:30 -11:00 and April 25, 6:00 – 7:00 were tentatively scheduled for the annual garden talk and sign up. C. Jenkins will put up sign-up sheets and include in the Friday Folder. A. Prior volunteered to create a CD of CG pictures which will be run at the meeting. At least 3 single gardens are available at this time. Garden clean up will be scheduled for May.

C. Jenkins will follow-up with Jan Facella regarding collecting plot rents. All were concerned that gardeners won't pay if they need to go to the town offices.

Original parties interested in the hoop house are no longer. D. Buchanan will list it on Craig's List.

Motion: Set hoop house price at \$150.

1st: D. Buchanan

2nd: L. Cote

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Approve cost of supplies to repair rototiller, totaling \$123.13, incurred by Jerry Devorss.

1st: C. Jenkins

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously.

School Garden – School wishes to begin composting, but not on site. Discussed using the compost at the CG, but all were concerned that the compost would contain more than vegetable matter and therefore not appropriate. Work on the plant sale is underway. School has chosen a salsa theme and have begun growing tomatoes and cilantro from seed. Discussion is underway to begin hydroponic gardening. C. Jenkins voiced concern that growing in water is not as healthy as in soil.

New Business – Membership – Audrey Prior attended the meeting and voiced a desire to join the Commission. Given her interest in farming and education, commission will recommend to the Select Board that she be approved. B. Burns will

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send the request along with a request to re-approve J. Ganotis and H. Brandt for 3 year terms; and L. Cote as an alternate.

Revolving Fund – J. Ganotis found information which indicates approval of an agricultural commission by a town automatically establishes a revolving fund for said commission. B. Burns to follow-up with D. Ebert and town administrator.

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

1st: D. Buchanan

2nd: L. Cote

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by B. Burns. Next Meeting: Monday, April 15, 2019; 7:00 pm, Town Clerk's Office