

North Hampton Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes: 3/21/2022 **FINAL**

Present: Audrey Prior (Chair), Joan Ganotis (Vice Chair), Dieter Ebert, Hank Brandt

Absent: Phil Thayer, Lisa Cote (alternate), Pollyanna Ford (alternate), Walter Nordstrom (alternate)

1. Opened meeting at 7:10 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve the minutes from 2/21/2022 as amended.

1st: J. Ganotis

2nd: D. Ebert

Motion passed unanimously

3. Old Business

3a. Community Garden: Garden sign up days for gardeners to drop off payment and complete paperwork are scheduled for Thursday March 31, 2022 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm and Saturday April 2, 2022 from 11:00am to 12:00pm at the North Hampton Public Library. Most gardeners had expressed interest in doing in-person sign ups rather than mailing in paperwork, so hopefully the sign-up days will have a good turnout. Mailing in payment and paperwork will still be an option for those who cannot attend. A. Prior contacted the Department of Public Works about the leaking spigots. They will assess them and fix or replace as needed once the water has been turned on. The Commission discussed the tribute garden idea that had been previously brought up. The tribute garden would be located in garden 5A&B once the current gardener is no longer able to continue at the community garden. Commission members raised the concern that this is a prime garden location, and to not rent out this plot might not be in the Commission's best interest. A. Prior stated that the gardener who uses this plot has indicated that she will be returning this year, so at this time a decision does not need to be made regarding this garden space.

3b. Goals for 2022: Updating the Agricultural Commission brochure is an annual goal. Commission members discussed whether to update the brochure this year or not. Ideas included making barns the theme of the brochure since the Agricultural Commission will be co-hosting a Barn Talk and Barn Tour later this year. This discussion will be continued in future meetings.

3c. Barn Tour and Talk: There is nothing currently that the Agricultural Commission needs to do. The Agricultural Commission will need to approve the expenditures for the Barn Talk and Barn Tour, but this should be done closer to the events as they will be happening in the next fiscal year.

3d. Newsletter articles/"Interview with a Farmer" project: No updates. The next article should be due in May 2022.

3e. North Hampton School Greenhouse: No updates.

3f. North Hampton Public Library (NHPL) Landscape Advisory Committee: The library trustees have not yet ordered the elevated planter beds. They are deciding on furniture for the patio before ordering anything else. Once the planters have been ordered A. Prior and L. Cote will work with the Youth Librarian to come up with agriculturally themed programming utilizing the planters.

3g. Membership: H. Brandt expressed willingness to continue as a member of the Agricultural Commission. A. Prior will send in the requests for re-appointment to the town.

Motion: To recommend to the Select Board the reappointment of the following persons to the Agricultural Commission: Joan Ganotis, Regular Member, 2-year term; Hank Brandt, Regular Member, 3-year term; Audrey Prior, Regular Member, 3-year term; Pollyanna Ford, Alternate Member, 1-year term

1st: D. Ebert

2nd: A. Prior

Motion passed unanimously

Motion: To nominate A. Prior as Chair and J. Ganotis as Vice Chair.

1st: H. Brandt

2nd: D. Ebert

Motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

4a. Records Storage: J. Ganotis will connect with Cindy Jenkins to see how much material she has and what documents C. Jenkins has.

4b. Land Use Boards Annual Meeting: D. Ebert noted that the annual Land Use Boards meeting will be coming up in a few months. The commission will begin discussing topics for the Land Use Boards meeting at the commission's meeting next month.

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

1st: A. Prior

2nd: D. Ebert

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Audrey Prior. Next Meeting date & time: April 18, 2022; 7:00 p.m.; North Hampton Town Clerk's Office