North Hampton Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes: 6/20/2022 DRAFT

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

Absent: Hank Brandt, Dieter Ebert, Phil Thayer

1. Opened meeting at 7:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve the minutes from 5/16/2022 as written.

1st: J. Ganotis 2nd: P. Ford

Motion passed unanimously

3. Old Business

3a. Community Garden: A. Prior had received an email from Allyson Rider that the town had not mowed around the exterior of the garden yet. A. Prior will reach out to the Department of Public Works to see if they're going to be able to continue to fit the Community Garden into their schedule. A group of gardeners decided to install a "library" at the community garden. It is a small enclosed shelving unit on a wood post. The gardeners installed it in dirt, not concrete, so it can be removed if needed. The idea is for them to be able to share gardening books. The commission was not notified that the gardeners would be doing this. No commission members had any objections given that it is not permanently installed. In the future, the commission hopes that the gardeners would ask for permission before making any modifications to the property that the garden plots are located on, as the Agricultural Commission should be consulted. J. Ganotis has beach plum and elderberry shrubs that could be planted at the garden. Since summer is not the ideal planting time, commission members decided to wait for now and schedule a work day, perhaps when the pollinator garden is planted, to look at the site and see where these shrubs could be planted. A. Prior and D. Ebert attended the Land Use Boards Annual Meeting. Lisa Wilson, Chair of the North Hampton Conservation Commission, noted that she had received a few comments about the community garden and the way it looks. Commission members will consider these complaints, though nothing can be done currently.

3b. <u>Goals for 2022</u>: J. Ganotis reached out to the Planning Board to inquire about when the Agricultural Chapter of the Master Plan will be added to the town website. The Planning Board is still working on revising the Master Plan and plans to wait until all updates are completed before making changes to the town website. A paper copy of the master plan is available at the town offices.

3c. <u>Barn Tour and Talk</u>: J. Ganotis has been working with the North Hampton Historical Society (NHHS) to finalize details for the Barn Talk and the Barn Tour. For the Barn Talk, the Agricultural Commission received a NH Humanities grant that will cover Mr. John Porter's speaker fee. The Agricultural Commission will need to pay for his mileage, which is \$60. The Agricultural Commission will also be responsible for supplying refreshments and will need to come up with a budget for this. Flyers will be distributed for publicity and will need to be printed, along with review sheets for after the talk. J. Ganotis is going to reach out to the Town Offices and see if they would be willing to print copies as not many would be needed. Mr. Porter has agreed to be televised and will bring copies of his book for people to purchase.

The Barn Tour will consist of four barns, all of which have now been confirmed. The NHHS is going to have a waiver for participants to sign and they feel that this will cover any liability concerns. The NHHS will be collecting the ticket sales, the Agricultural Commission will not be collecting any money. NHHS will cover paying Mr. Porter and proceeds will be split, with the Agricultural Commission's portion of Mr. Porter's fees being deducted from their portion of the proceeds.

The tour can accommodate 30 paying people as well as the owners of the barns being toured who will be able to attend for free.

- 3d. <u>Newsletter articles/"Interview with a Farmer" project:</u> P. Ford will reach out to Lisa Cote about the next newsletter article. Based on past deadlines, the next article should be due in September.
- 3e. <u>Land Use Boards Annual Meeting:</u> A. Prior and D. Ebert attended the Land Use Boards Annual Meeting as representatives of the Agricultural Commission. A. Prior shared a memo prepared by J. Ganotis regarding the Barn Talk and the Barn Tour, and described the current status of the Community Garden. The Planning Board is working on several revisions to the Zoning Ordinance and other regulations, including a review of the inclusionary housing ordinance, Accessory Dwelling Units, and the site plan regulations for removal of ledge. They are also updating the Housing chapter of the Master Plan. The Conservation Commission is working on a septic system inventory and database, and is having new trail maps drawn for several of the larger or more popular conservation trails in town. The Heritage Commission is finalizing their updated Master Plan chapter and is working towards North Hampton becoming a Certified Local Government. The Planning Board also presented a brief overview of the new Coastal Hazards and Adaptation Master Plan Chapter that they recently approved.

4. New Business

None

5. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 8:13 p.m. 1st: A. Prior 2nd: P. Ford Motion passed unanimously.

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