

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

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

1. Opened meeting at 7:21 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve the minutes from 8/15/2022 as amended.

1st: D. Ebert

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously

3. Old Business

3a. Membership: C. Kasztejna's appointment as an alternate to the Agricultural Commission was approved by the Select Board. There is still one open alternate position.

3b. Barn Tour and Talk: The Barn Talk was held Thursday, August 18th at 7:00pm at the North Hampton Town Hall. 40 people attended, many of them North Hampton residents but also some people from other towns. The talk was well received and the feedback on the review cards was positive. The talk was recorded and is available online through the North Hampton meeting videos under the title "Historical Society Barn Lecture."

The NHHS Barn Tour also received positive feedback. Attendees had a nice time looking at the three private barns. There were 22 people signed up for the tour, though two people were sick and were not able to attend.

Motion: To authorize a \$12.95 reimbursement to Joan Ganotis for the purchase of thank you gifts for the barn owners who allowed their barns to be toured.

1st: A. Prior

2nd: D. Ebert

Motion passed unanimously

3c. Community Garden: The commission briefly discussed the possible expansion of the garden. Commission members agreed that the Agricultural Commission would need permission from the Conservation Commission to move forward with the expansion. A. Prior will send a letter to the Conservation Commission requesting that this be discussed at their next meeting. The Agricultural Commission is seeking permission to till up to three acres of land to loosen the soil, then plant cover crops on this tilled land and expand the garden as needed over the next several years. A. Prior will also reach out to H. Brandt to request that he get an estimate for the additional cost of planting a cover crop and find out how late in the year this work can be done. Once the commission determines whether the project can move forward this year, A. Prior will contact the town to determine what is needed to extend the current water lines and add spigots in the lower field.

3d. Newsletter articles/"Interview with a Farmer" project: A. Prior received notification that there will not be a fall newsletter this year. The next newsletter will be the winter newsletter, which is usually due in January with publication in February.

3e. Goals for 2022: Commission members discussed and decided to wait until 2023 to revise the brochure. Possible theme ideas include Best Management Practices (BMPs), and Goats. Goats 101 may be a good newsletter topic for the future.

4. New Business

4a. Budget FY 2024: A. Prior submitted the Agricultural Commission's budget proposal. The proposal requests that the budget remain at \$2000 for FY 2024.

4b. Annual Report 2022: The annual report will be due in a few months. J. Ganotis will start working on a draft for the commission to review.

5. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

1st: A. Prior

2nd: J. Ganotis

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Audrey Prior. Next Meeting date & time: October 17, 2022; 7:00 p.m.; North Hampton Town Clerk's Office