

**Town of Boscawen
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 10th, 2022, at 7:00 PM**

Members Present: John Keegan – Chair, Bill Bevans, Roger Sanborn, Julie Fournier, and Gary Tillman

Absent- John Porter- Vice Chair, Ralph Odell, & Lorrie Carey-Ex Officio

Chair John Keegan opened the public meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Roll Call: Completed two guests: Tatyanna Wunschel and Lyman Cousens

Review and Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner Roger Sanborn motioned to approve the 01.13.22 draft minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Bill Bevans. All in favor. None opposed.

Financial Report:

Chair John Keegan said the \$60 expense is due to the Composting Project magnets. There are no other changes.

Chair Keegan said the Commission had authorized Farm Bureau membership two months ago. The membership form had finally arrived this week and will be completed and returned this month.

Commissioner Bevans motioned to approve the Account Report through 02.10.22 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.

Land Use Happenings: Ms. Julie Fournier volunteered to do this months' action item notes for each Commissioner.

Old Business:

Old Home Day: Vice Chair of the Old Home Day Committee (OHD), Mr. Lyman Cousens, said they are planning a big event this year. OHD is doing a Town-wide yard sale in June which would be a great time to kick off the sheep sale. He received an email from Adele Sanborn, planning for the week of Old Home Day to have a series of events regarding sheep and wool. She asked if there was a possibility of doing sheep cut outs. Several years ago they did cow cut outs which was a huge success and a big event. They had about 60 cows. The gentleman who did the cutouts is no longer able to do so. OHD needs someone(s) new. In addition, the price of plywood is 'through the roof'. Cow Cutouts sold for \$10. Mr. Cousens has an appointment with Kim Doubleday to discuss possible assistance with the wood working. Mr. Cousens noted the AgCom meeting minutes indicated Mr. Jeff Abbe may be interested in doing the cutouts. Each sheep cutout material will cost \$32.50 based on current information. . OHD has their own funds

and may be able to sell them for \$25. The Committee will be looking for a plywood supplier. Commissioner Sanborn suggested asking Don Steinbeck to donate plywood. He will touch base with him. Mr. Cousens said KSD is also a possibility. Ross Express may be an opportunity as well. Chair Keegan suggested Mr. Cousens check to see if Mr. Abbe can provide the labor because he has a full plate at the Community Garden. Chair Keegan also advised checking on the plywood type and quality. Mr. Cousens is looking for general support from AgComm and judging for the sheep competition. Ms. Wunschel said her father does woodworking and may have the equipment to help with cutouts. She will check with him and see if he is willing to work on this project.

New Commissioner: Commissioner Fournier introduced Ms. Wunschel. She is a candidate to become an Alternate Commissioner. Commissioner Fournier outlined the Alternate Commissioner's role and thinks Ms. Wunschel's interests and skills fit the position. Ms. Wunschel is a junior at Merrimack Valley. She is currently in her second year at the Winnisquam Agricultural Center. It is also her second year in Future Farmers of America (FFA). She has been a 4-H member and has worked with all types of animals. Her family moved from Franklin several years ago and the move has opened a lot of opportunities for her. She worked at Black Forest Nursery and Highway View Farm. Ms. Wunschel, when asked about her interest in joining the Commission, noted that a younger perspective would be a great asset to the Commission. Ms. Wunschel attended this year's FFA State Convention at UNH and came in 1st place judging dairy cows.

Commissioner Fournier motioned to approve recommending the Select Board approve Tatyanna Wunschel as an Alternate Commissioner. Seconded by Commissioner Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.

Home Composting: Chair Keegan and Commissioner Fournier have been working on this project. They have received both magnet orders. Chair Keegan spoke with Deputy PCD Director O'Brien who will copy and collate materials for a table at Town Meeting Day. Chair Keegan asked the Commissioners to volunteer time on town Meeting Day. Commissioner Sanborn volunteered and Ms. Wunschel can help after 3pm. Chair Keegan has spoken with Ruth Smith from Cooperative Extension Service (CES). CES has a Power Point presentation that is an excellent introduction on Composting. He has spoken with Elaine Clow, current chair of the Library Trustees, who is supportive of doing trainings at the library this Spring or Summer. She will talk with the librarian. Two library presentations would be done and a third at the Community Garden. The Community Garden presentation would focus on building a compost bin with pallets. He also spoke to Suzann Maze at Black Forest. He gave her educational materials detailing compost bin options and suppliers. Chair Keegan asked PWD Dean Hollins to put the sign up on Marlboro Rd. after Town Meeting Day. The Lake's Region Planning Commission has materials on composting and recycling. Chair Keegan is talking with them for help getting useful educational materials. Ms. Wunschel said there are 4-H groups in the area looking for activities to do. She thinks this may be a good project for them. She will reach out to them and report back next meeting.

Sanborn Garden: Commissioner Sanborn needs a coordinator at the schools. He was thinking about Ms. Kim Kenney. They need someone to take down names of those interested. Commissioner Sanborn said they could do 10' x 10' gardens for cucumbers, radishes, etc. The target age would be 1st to 5th grade. Commissioner Sanborn said Blue Seal may have seed packets for the kids to use. Chair Keegan said he will find out Stacey Luke's organization because they have seedlings and forward him the information.

Rack Cards: The committee reviewed the new rack cards with the updates. Mr. Tillman asked when they will order more. Chair Keegan said if they all agree, they can check the prices. He would need an approval by the committee.

Commissioner Tillman motioned to approve the Rack Card purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.

New Business: None

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Tillman; Seconded by Mr. Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.

Next Meeting

Thursday, March 10th, 2022 @ 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted, Hannah Gardner