

**Town of Boscawen
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

1 Members Present: John Keegan – Chair, Julie Fournier, John Porter, Bill Bevens- Vice Chair,
2 Members Absent: Josh Marshall, Rusty Colby, Tina Larochelle
3 Others Present: Danielle Bosco- Recording Secretary, Kellee Jo Easler – Planning & Community
4 Development Director, Hillary Bailey- Conservation District of Merrimack County
5 Local Food Coordinator, Jeff Abbe, Community Garden Coordinator and Conservation
6 Commissioner

7
8 Chair Keegan opened the public meeting at 7:20pm.

9
10 Roll call completed by Chair Keegan

11
12 **Review and Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes:**

13 Ms. Fournier made the following corrections, line 51- correct market, line 22- add out after gave.

14 **Bill Bevens made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Julie**
15 **Fournier. All in favor. None opposed.**

16
17 **Financial Report:**

18 **Motion made to accept the Financial Report for January 1, 2019 - October 10, 2019 by**
19 **Julie Fournier and seconded by Bill Bevens. All in favor, none opposed.**

20
21 **New Law concerning theft of agricultural products:**

22 Chair Keegan said Mr. Marshall will update members at next month's meeting.

23
24 **Land Use Happenings:**

25 Mrs. Easler said the budget is the current focus of attention. Meanwhile, work on combining the
26 Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations continues.

27
28 **Community Garden:**

29 Jeff Abbe reported most of the season end clean-up is complete and signs are put away. Hillary
30 Bailey provided information about the NH Greens Program. The program is mostly volunteer
31 operated. The purpose of the program is to collect produce and deliver it to people in need, one
32 example being the Backpack Program. Chair Keegan recommended she contact Sarah Gerlack at
33 the Town Office to work with her as well as the Boscawen Elementary School. Commissioners
34 discussed waving the fee of two Community Garden plots to the NH Greens program.

35
36 **Motion made to waive the fee for two plots for the NH Greens Program by Julie Fournier**
37 **and seconded by John Porter. All in favor, none opposed.**

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38 Jeff Abbe discussed expanding the current garden to add at least 12 more plots. Jeff asked for
39 permission to purchase a broad fork for \$82 and supplies such as water spigots for the 2020
40 expansion. The Commissioners agreed that he do so using current (2019) funds.

41

42 **Motion made to add 12 more plots on the east end of the Community Garden next spring**
43 **by Julie Fournier(?) and seconded by John Porter(?). All in favor, none opposed.**

44

45 **Conservation Commission Discussion of Natural Resource Inventory:**

46 Jeff Abbe, in his capacity as a Conservation Commissioner, introduced the Natural Resource
47 Inventory(NRI) currently underway as part of the update for Chapter 8 of the town's Master Plan
48 Natural Resource Chapter. He would like to give the Commission a broader presentation on the
49 NRI and have Agricultural Commission input on things like stone wall location and the
50 sufficiency of agriculture related information in Chapter 8. Trail location, types of use(s) and
51 their interconnectness was one item suggested for further discussion and research. Jeff
52 mentioned that he, for example, would like to develop trails that tie into the Elementary School
53 trails. He also provided Commissioners with the website to download the LiDAR information to
54 begin mapping stone walls. Chair Keegan invited Mr. Abbe to attend the November 14 meeting
55 of the Commission to continue this discussion.

56

57 **2020-2021 Budget:**

58 Mrs. Easler suggested the Commission review the proposed budget. The Commission has not
59 exceeded the budget of \$2,000 but might consider reallocation of the \$2,000.

60

61 **Motion made to put \$500 in administrative, \$600 in Garden and \$900 in Physical**
62 **Improvements by John Porter and seconded by Julie Fournier. All in favor, none opposed.**

63

64 **Tax Assessor Education:**

65 Chair Keegan said he and John Porter will be attending the training scheduled for the New
66 Hampshire Municipal Associations Fall Conference on November 13 and 14.

67

68 **Boscawen Historical Society Landscaping:**

69 Julie Fournier, also a Historical Society member, had included this note for informational
70 purposes only. There is no Agricultural Commission action needed.

71

72 **Town Report 2019:**

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73 Chair Keegan asked Commissioners to begin drafting sections of the report for discussion and
74 review at the November meeting. Josh Marshall will edit; Jeff Abbe and Julie Fournier will
75 report on the Community Garden; John Porter on the Municipal Conference tax assessment
76 training; and John Keegan on highway signs and general matters.

77 Mrs. Easler will invite Sarah Gerlack will attend next month's meeting to discuss having a
78 Farmers Market.

79

80 **Adjournment:**

81

82 **Motion made at 8:23pm by Bill Bevans and seconded by Julie Fournier to adjourn. All in**
83 **favor. None opposed.**

84

85 **Next Meeting:**

86 November 14, 2019

87

88 *Respectfully submitted, Danielle Bosco*