

**Town of Boscawen  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION  
Boscawen Municipal Complex  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 7:00 PM**

Members Present: John Keegan – Chair, John Porter- Vice Chair, Roger Sanborn, Ralph Odell, Gary Tillman, Julie Fournier & Bill Bevans

Absent- Tina Larochelle & Lorrie Carey-Ex Officio

Others Present - Crystal Tuttle- Planning & Community Development Clerk

Chair John Keegan opened the public meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: completed and guests introduced.

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

Ms. Julie Fournier requests one correction, line 22, add Stacia Langille, owner of the Equine Center, who wanted to be included in the agricultural rack card.

Mr. Ralph Odell requests one correction, line 32, strikethrough “ME”, and add “landfill”.

**Mr. Gary Tillman motioned to accept the 08.12.21 meeting minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Mr. Roger Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.**

**Financial Report:** Mr. Tillman asked what the new \$50 expense was. Chair John Keegan said he did not recall. Mr. Tillman suggested more careful tracking of expenses. Chair Keegan asked Planning & Community Development Clerk (PCD) Crystal Tuttle to note in the future monthly financial reports detail all expenses and income.

**Mr. Tillman motioned to accept the 09.09.21 financials as written. Motion seconded by Mr. Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.**

**Old Business:** Chair Keegan said that the Selectman made a change last year in relation to action items. Any time there is a specific action item for the following month it should be tied to a person who is responsible for carrying out the action. The Select Board is looking for accountability as well as showing progress and accomplishments.

**Land Use Happenings:** PCD Clerk Tuttle said the Planned Unit Development is where Kesavan used to be, behind Alan’s Restaurant. Mr. Tillman said their vision is to have four duplexes. They haven’t come to the Planning Board for anything specific yet. Mr. Tillman said it will be 8 units total with an estimate of three people per unit. They have a lot of parking with multiple parking spaces for each unit.

Mr. Tillman said the Planning Board gave approval Tuesday night to build a Home Business Major. Chair Keegan asked if it was located on Corn Hill Rd. PCD Clerk Tuttle said yes, and the public notice is in the back of the packet for reference. Chair Keegan asked if there are any other

questions or comments related to Land Use Happenings. There were no further comments or questions.

**Rack Cards:** Vice Chair John Porter said they need information from PCD Clerk Tuttle. He asked if they could print the rack cards with the information in hand so they don't have to wait another month. Chair Keegan concurred. Vice Chair Porter asked PCD Clerk Tuttle to edit the rack card to read "Richardson's Farm Ice Cream", in the picture caption, putting an apostrophe between the n and s? He said the current caption under the Richardson's photo does not clearly identify the business. Chair Keegan asked if he missed anything from last meeting that he needed to know. Vice Chair Porter said they just need to focus on finishing the rack cards. Mr. Tillman agreed and said they should get the horse farm address and add Stacia Langille. There is plenty of space on the card. Mr. Tillman said they also talked about the sign for the farm. Chair Keegan said he will work with PCD Clerk Tuttle to get the horse farm information. Then, the cards can be printed. PCD Clerk Tuttle said Town Administrator Alan Hardy reported Capital Copy printed the first run. She will contact them for price & quantity information. The first run was 500 copies which the Commissioners agreed to do again. Chair Keegan asked if Commissioners wanted to authorize a budget cap for the purchase. Ms. Fournier then questioned if there were holders available. Vice Chair Porter had suggested putting stickers on the holders to identify the Boscawen Agricultural Commission as the owner. Mr. Tillman suggested a small sticker on the holder saying, "Owned by/property of the Boscawen Agricultural Commission". Vice Chair Porter recommended adding an address label as a contact for more copies. Ms. Fournier asked how many holders will be needed. Chair Keegan said most of these farms already have a holder. Commissioner Bevans suggested buying 10 holders. Chair Keegan offered to look for any holders left in the Town Municipal Building. Vice Chair Porter asked if total costs would amount to about \$1,000. Chair Keegan suggested using the balance in the Commission's Physical Improvements line, \$900. Commissioner Tillman agreed and noted it would leave about \$200 for the rest of the year.

**Mr. Bevans motioned to accept appropriating up to \$900 for the rack cards and printing along with plastic card holders and labels. Motion seconded by Mr. Tillman. All in favor. None opposed.**

Mr. Bevans said, if possible, he would prefer to contract with local businesses. Capital Copy is located near Eagle Square in Concord.

**Chair Keegan asked that the previous motion be amended, to include accepting an appropriation of up to \$900 for the total cost of all purchases. Motion seconded by Mr. Tillman. All in favor. None opposed.**

Ms. Fournier passed around samples of the mockup put together by Correctional Industries (CI) for the Commission. Ms. Fournier talked with Nate, her CI contact. He would like to know what font to use. The sign would be blue. Vice Chair Porter doesn't think the 'slanted sign' is needed between food waste. Ms. Fournier will remove it. Ms. Fournier asked for opinions on the top and bottom sample fonts. Commissioners suggested using the top font. Ms. Fournier also asked opinions about the use of the compost symbol. Mr. Bevans would remove it because people

won't recognize it. Other Commissioners agreed. The signs will be 48" X 10". One sign will be aluminum with round corners without holes. PWD Dean Hollins will put up the signs. Chair Keegan suggested asking PWD Hollins if he would prefer holes or not. PCD Clerk Tuttle will email him tomorrow. Vice Chair Porter said CI will need to know the holes' locations and sizes. She will ask PWD Hollins what needs to be done to the signs to frame and post them. The signs will be blue with white lettering. One sign costs \$60.

Ms. Fournier received a quote from Nate for magnets with the message 'Compost Food Waste at Home, Agricultural Commission Boscawen' to hand out at community events or Town Meeting. The current quote is \$2.50 each for a 50 count of 5"X 3" magnets totaling \$125. Ms. Fournier also asked Nate to quote a 100 count for business size magnets. The quote is pending. Mr. Bevans recommended requoting at Capital Copy. Ms. Fournier will do so.

**Mr. Bevans motioned to appropriate up to \$75 for the Compost Food Waste sign using the top font. Motion seconded by Mr. Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.**

Chair Keegan asked if the Commissioners followed-up on the recycling question. Commissioners briefly discussed demonstration projects. The Commissioners had focused on the sign and the rack card.

**New Business:** Ms. Fournier referred to the status of an earlier discussion on the 'right to repair' proposed legislation. Ms. Fournier contacted Bruce Crawford, as requested. Mr. Crawford responded with written information and an attachment which she hopes one of the Commissioners can open and share on the proposed legislation. She will forward Mr. Crawford's email to the Commissioners.

Ms. Fournier reported Mr. Bevans sent over an article on composting. However, the article shared is from the Granite Geek titled 'Nation's first mutual bank in 50 years looks to serve the region's farms'. Copies of this article were given to Commissioners to read for discussion at the October meeting. However, the composting article review is pending.

Mr. Bevans wanted to let the members know that the Boscawen Congregational Church is thinking about having a farmers' market in the community park next year.

**Community Garden:** Ms. Fournier reported, two mums are going to be planted on either side of the Ken Marshall Stone. Mr. Abbe purchased 16 mums at Murray Farm for the Exit 17 Circle and two for the garden. Chair Keegan has been thinking about the volunteer issue at the garden. The two volunteers who do most of the upkeep and administrative work have been at it since the garden began. So, the Commission needs to develop a work plan for future volunteer support. Commissioners began to brainstorm about how to raise interest among community members and focused on younger people as a starting point. PCD Clerk Tuttle suggested reaching out to UNH Cooperative Extension. Chair Keegan said they have in the past, and worked with the Master Garden Program. Mr. Sanborn said Winnisquam High School has an Ag Department which some Merrimack Valley kids attend. Mr. Sanborn suggested contacting the school about student volunteers. Chair Keegan asked if Mr. Sanborn has a contact at the school. Commissioner Ralph

Odell knows a teacher and will make inquiries. Chair Keegan noted volunteer service would be for a broad range of activities. PCD Clerk Tuttle suggested Boy Scouts. Mr. Sanborn doesn't think there is an active group in town. Chair Keegan will talk to SB Chairwoman Lorrie Carrey about the Gardening Club at Merrimack Valley. Two volunteers from that program helped the Circle Committee with the perennial planting. Chair Keegan will try talking to people about volunteering as he sees them at the Community Gardens. PCD Tuttle Clerk asked if they should put a notice on the town website. Chair Keegan would like to discuss ideas more fully at the October meeting and, then consider the website.

**New Business:** None

**Mr. Sanborn motioned to sustain the votes made by Mr. Bill Bevans on the June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, AgComm meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Tillman. All in favor. None opposed.**

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 7pm.

**Adjournment:**

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

*Respectfully submitted, Hannah Gardner*