

Town of East Windsor Agricultural Commission

Minutes

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:07 PM

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

1. Attended by: Albert Grant, Donna Grant, Jim Stremper, Clark Chapin, Tim Moore
Absent: Wesley Bell, Glenn Reichle

III. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approval of minutes of February 25, 2021 and March 25, 2021. Motion made by Jim Stremper, 2nd Albert Grant. Motion passed.

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Garden.

Millings have been installed on apron and parking lot by the town but not well graded.

No results of soil test yet. We should lime in the fall. Manure will be applied by Jim Stremper. Vote to buy 2 yards compost from Collins Compost to be put into a pile for use by the gardeners. Jim Stremper made motion, Albert Grant 2nd. Motion passed.

Garden opens May 1. So far, the number of reserved plots is about the same as last year.

Plowing event went well. It was well attended. There were 4 teams. Jim Stremper will submit bills for 3 loads of manure at \$100.00 a load when it has been applied. He will also rototill the Garden.

Jim Stremper made a donation to the horse teamsters. Albert Grant suggested the Commission share. We will wait to vote on that when Glenn or Wesley is in attendance.

Clark Chapin reported on bringing water to the Community Garden. The Board of Finance did transfer \$20,000 from the contingency fund. There will need to be a meter and a well house. The work will take 8 weeks and will be done by the Department of Public Works. Clark Chapin will let Joe Sauerhofer know that the Commission would like to confer on where the water goes. For now, we will continue to rely on the Broad Brook Fire Dept. to fill the tank. Jim Stremper will ask Tom Arcari to fill the tank.

Town resident Roger Peterson volunteered to help at the Garden.

2. POCD Implementation Committee

Clark Chapin attended Board of Selectmen Meeting. The plan is for a loosely formed working committee. People will not need to be appointed. A meeting will be planned in the next couple of weeks.

3. The list of Agricultural Businesses in town has been submitted to the Selectman's office for inclusion in the spring Town newsletter. We also submitted an article from the Ag. Commission about the Kogut field. There may not be room in this newsletter. How can we disseminate the information to Town residents? Perhaps Joe Chaisson from the Journal Inquirer?

4. Kogut Field restoration

Ed Paulaskas has a land clearing business. Do we want to see if he will submit a bid? The field could be rented if restored. The Town has 4 rented farm fields. A bidding process is used for rental.

There is a run-down tobacco barn on the property. Clark Chapin will talk to the Board of Selectmen. If nothing is done it will become a bigger liability. The Commission agrees saving the barn would be good. Potential rental income might be about \$2,500 a year. Jim Stremper would be able to manufacture the lumber needed for the barn repair.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. General Discussion

VIII. REPORTS OF STAFF

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

X. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn. 1st. Jim Stremper 2nd. Albert Grant. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Donna Grant, Recording Secretary