Town of East Windsor Agricultural Commission

Minutes

Thursday, October 28, 2021 Location: Town Hall Meeting Room and Zoom Rye St. Broad Brook CT 06016

Agenda

- I. CALL TO ORDER 6:15 PM
- II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM
 - 1. Attended by: Albert Grant, Donna Grant, Jim Strempfer, Ruth Calabrese. Absent: Wesley Bell, Glenn Reichle
- III. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approval of minutes of September 23, 2021. Motion made by Jim Strempfer, 2nd Albert Grant. Motion passed.

- V. NEW BUSINESS
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 - 1. Community Garden.

Discussion and consensus to change the Garden Rules to state the Garden will close at the time of a hard frost or Nov. 1.

Discussion about meeting with Gardeners in March. Opportunity to discuss good gardening practices and to have good communication. Possibly a committee of Gardeners. Will send letter to this year's Gardeners.

Recommendation from Jim Strempfer regarding a garden lecturer, Nigel, 860-878-1584.

Restated that E. W. resident Gardeners will have first access to plot sign-ups.

Discussion concerning the hose to the water tank can be cut to put another hydrant on top of the hill if we have more need of plots there. Tank could also be used as a back-up.

2. Kogut Farm

No new information. We can keep beating the drum.

Need to see if the farmland Restoration Grant is still available or how else to get money for the restoration. It has been a while since we got a quote and we should revisit Dave Hass and maybe inquire of Palaskus Land Clearing.

Albert Grant brought up at the POCD Implementation meeting about the possibility of using income from E.W. farmland rental for farmland restoration. We should follow-up on this.

We should put an outline of the restoration project on paper (barn too).

Question; could we get Solar Company to retore barn since they are tearing down and lessening number of barns in Town.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Election of Officers.

Jim Strempfer made motion to keep present officers for another year. Albert Grant, Chairman, Donna Grant Secretary. Albert 2nd motion. Motion passed.

2. Approval of 2022 Meeting dates.

Discussion. Albert Grant made motion to keep dates as proposed with exception of Jan. 22, 2022; change to Thursday Jan. 6, 2022. Also change Dec. 22, 2022 to Dec. 15, 2022. Change all the meeting times to 6:30.

Motion 2nd by Jim Strempfer. Motion passed.

3. Albert Grant proposed eliminating Dec 23, 2021 meeting as it is too close to Christmas. All agreed.

VIII. REPORTS OF STAFF

- POCD Implementation Committee Joint meeting with PZC was held on September 28, 2021. Joan Nichols Executive Director of CT Farm Bureau talked about the need and ways to preserve farmland. Albert Grant also talked about ways to preserve farmland including discussion about The Northern CT Land Trust, the need for more money in the Open Space Fund and the need to restore the Town owned Kogut Farm.
- 2. Ruthanne Calabrese brought to our attention that Melissa Maltese is working on a Masterplan for Open Space and Recreation Services and Parks. They are seeking community engagement. Our Commission could attend to talk about the Community Garden. Need to find out the date of the meeting.

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

X. ADJOURMENT

1. Motion to adjourn. 1st. Jim Strempfer, 2nd. Albert Grant. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Donna Grant, Recording Secretary