

Colchester Agriculture Commission
Monday August 15, 2016 – 7:00 PM
Town Hall Meeting Room 3

MEETING MINUTES – O. Duksa

PRESENT COMMISSION MEMBERS: C. Bourque, D. Wasniewski, O. Duksa,

ABSENT COMMISSION MEMBERS: D. Rosenblatt

PRESENT ALTERNATES: C. Csere

ABSENT ALTERNATES: L. Curtis

Meeting began at 7:06

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMISSION ON: July 18th. 2016

Moved: O. Duksa

Seconded: D. Wasniewski

Approved

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Group meeting with the Board of Economic Development: James Ford-Chair, Members: Trevor Falconi, Paul Catalano, John Dion, Bruce Goldstein, Bruce Fox, Stacey Brown, and Jean Walsh. Other Citizens-Heather Wilson, Sam Wilson, Daphne Schuab-Colchester ZEO, and Randall Benson- Colchester Town Planner,

FARM/BREWERY PROPOSAL:

Connecticut currently has no comprehensive regulations on Farm Breweries, unlike wineries. Eight towns have farm brewery regulations.

The Town Planner and Planning and Zoning will need to enact regulations both to brew beer and sell/consume beer on site.

Issues like disposal of black water and brewing waste and the possibility of recycling will need to be addressed by District Health Department and CT EPA.

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Additional topics, such as Associated Non-Agricultural Enterprise on Agricultural Land, Farm Brewery, and brewing classes discussed.

COLCHESTER FOOD HUB:

Delays in implementation discussed.

September's Presentation by the Farm Bureau to update us on grant availability and how to apply to increase farm involvement and farmer's investing in food hub

FARM TO SCHOOL:

D. Wasniewski reported some updates on the Farm to School Program. Mary Cugno in the new Sophomore Farm to School student Representative. D. Wasniewski reported to Mary that we support and assist the farm to school students with development and implementation of new existing and new event presence and initiatives. The first Farm to School meeting of this school year will be announced shortly by Mary Cugno.

CCC was discussed in regards to their event held at Zagray Farm on Sept. 10. They are looking for more vendors. C. Bourque was volunteering and giving hay rides!

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING:

Moved: O. Duksa

Seconded: C. Csere

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by O. Duksa, acting as Secretary for the Agriculture Commission