

Colchester Agriculture Commission  
Monday January 25, 2016 – 7:00 PM  
Town Hall Meeting Room 3

MEETING MINUTES – D. Rosenblatt

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

ABSENT COMMISSION MEMBERS: D. Wisniewski

PRESENT ALTERNATES: L. Curtis, C. Csere

Meeting began at 7:01

RECEIVED  
TOWN HALL  
COLCHESTER, VT  
2016 FEB -2 AM 10:12

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMISSION ON: November 16. 2015

Moved: L. Curtis

Seconded: O. Duksa

Approved unanimously

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

\*Comments were made regarding the backyard poultry zoning regulations, later on the agenda.

CHAIR REPORT: Chairman C. Bourque that there will be a public meeting of the Farm To School Program to elicit opinions of where the public wants the program to go. The program will be Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Bacon Academy cafeteria.

FARM BUILDING TAX EXEMPTION: Eleven farms have been identified by the Colchester Tax Assessor's Office as being eligible under P.A. 490 for the \$100,000 tax exemption per building.

The next step is to inventory buildings for value based on agriculture being their sole use. A report will be presented to the Assessor and First Selectman

L. Curtis and C. Bourque will participate in this inventory.

BACKYARD POULTRY ZONING REGULATION: Colchester currently does not have regulations regarding the keeping/housing of backyard poultry and has asked the Ag Commission to assist in formulating those guidelines.

C. Bourque presented several examples of adopted guidelines from New Haven, CT; Denver, CO; and Cleveland, OH.

It was decided to adapt the New Haven, CT guidelines with a few modifications. C. Bourque will finalize these guidelines and present them to the Planning and Zoning Commission at their next regular meeting on Wed, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016.

Motion to create these guidelines for presentation;

Moved: L. Curtis

Second: O. Duksa

Approved unanimously

\*During this segment, there were comments from the three present citizens:

Greg Davis: 85 Cemetery Road

: 83 Cemetery Road

Andrea Migliaccio – visiting from the Board of Finance

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING:

Moved: O. Duksa

Seconded: L. Curtis

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned 8:23 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by D. Rosenblatt, acting as Secretary for the Agriculture Commission

