

Colchester Agriculture Commission Minutes  
Monday, May 21, 2018, 7:00 P.M.  
Town Hall Room 1

Attending: Chris Bourque (Chairman), Olivia Duksa, Leslie Curtis (Alternate)

Absent: Donna Rosenblatt, David Wasniewski

Also Attending: Megan Ashe, Max Groeger, and Makenna Russell (all are Seniors enrolled in the Bacon Academy Civics class.)

**1. Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman C. Bourque at 7:10 P.M.

**2. Approve minutes of the Agriculture Commission on April 16, 2018:**

**MOTION:** L. Curtis moved to postpone the vote to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2018 Agriculture Commission Meeting until our Commission's next regular meeting. O. Duksa seconded.

**VOTE:** APPROVED with all in favor.

**3. Additions and/or changes to Agenda:**

None.

**4. Chairman's Report:**

None.

**5. Farm to School:**

Chairman Bourque has contacted Chairman of the Board of Education Bernier about the setting up a one-on-one meeting about Farm to School Initiatives as they relate to the Colchester School System. This meeting will take place very soon after the Town Budget has been approved. The Agriculture Commission supports the concept that Agricultural Education needs to be made an integral part of the curriculum and culture in our public schools from K thru 12.

**7. Right to Farm Signs**

A committee of civic volunteers has provided the Agriculture Commission a very thorough proposal to install "Colchester: A Right to Farm Community" signs throughout the town. Notably, the expense of the production of these signs will be assumed by the Colchester Land Trust which is an independent not-for-profit 501(c)3 charitable entity as part of its mission to educate the public about the many benefits of preserving open space and farmland in town.

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, VT  
2018 MAY 22 PM 12:57  
Chris Bourque  
Chairman  
Agriculture Commission

To give our visiting Civics Class students some perspective on the proposal under consideration, Chairman Bourque and Leslie Curtis provided some background on the whole subject of the Right to Farm concept as it has evolved over time in the statutes of the State of Connecticut and then here, specifically, in Colchester as a local ordinance.

**MOTION:** Olivia Duksa moved that the “Colchester: A Right to Farm Community” sign proposal be endorsed by the Agriculture Commission and that the Chairman of the Agriculture Commission present the proposal to the Board of Selectmen for discussion and possible action at first available opportunity.

Leslie Curtis seconded.

**VOTE: APPROVED,** unanimously.

#### **8. Adjournment:**

Leslie Curtis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M. and Olivia Duksa seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Curtis  
Recording Secretary at this Meeting and  
Alternate on the Agriculture Commission