

Zoning Board of Appeals
March 15, 2011 – Regular Meeting
127 Norwich Avenue – Room 3

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Laurie Robinson, Robert Setschinsky, Patrick Reading, Board of Selectmen Liaison Stan Soby.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tricia Hayn, Michael Solis.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robinson called this Regular Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. ADDITONS TO AGENDA

No additions were requested.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

4. PENDING APPLICATIONS - None

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting will be presented at the next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS/APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:

Presentation by Chris Bourque – Agricultural Commission

C. Bourque reviewed a draft of the proposed Ordinance Establishing an Agriculture Commission.

C. Bourque owns Birch Pond Farm on Westchester Road. He explained why the Agriculture Commission should be established. It would be comprised of diverse community members, not just farmers. He stated the voice of agriculture has been lost for a long time and he seeks to bring that voice back. The commission would like to work with zoning, conservation and other commissions to avoid conflicts, apply for grants and to actively promote farms.

C. Bourque is introducing the idea to town boards and commissions, gathering information to present to the Board of Selectmen for approval of the proposed Commission.

Members asked questions regarding job opportunities, number of farms with discussion following about the farmers' market, community gardens and educational opportunities. At this time, there are approximately 75 farms in Colchester with 25 formally recognized.

Chairman Robinson thanked C. Bourque for the presentation. No action was taken.

7. OLD BUSINESS -

There is no Old Business at this time.

8. ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT - None

9. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence has been received.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: P. Reading
to adjourn.

Second by: R. Setschinsky.

Vote: Unanimous.

Chairman Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk

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