

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes

January 23, ~~2013~~ 2014

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT at 7:15 p.m. by Chairman Albert Grant

**II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

A quorum was established, members present; Albert Grant, Janice Warren and Kirk Montstream, Jim Stremper, Pete Larese and Roger LaChance

Also present and a special welcome to our liaison from the Board of Selectmen; Jason Bowsza

**III. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

October 23, 2013 minutes were reviewed and approved. There are NO November 2013 or December 2013 minutes to review due to the holidays.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- COMMUNITY GARDEN- 1) Whole Harmony-David Soule was scheduled to attend, but was not present for this meeting. Was to discuss possibly putting up a high tunnel or hoop type/style green house on the property. 2) Christine Dahl, of the East Windsor Dog Park, spoke to the commission about safety concerns as for the proposed location of the gardens driveway. We hope to stake out a new location of the driveway for review by the town engineer, so that a draft site plan can be presented at a February selectmen's meeting. She hopes the Dog Park and Garden properties can work together with the town engineer and create a space that works for all for years to come. Christine is a Master Gardener with a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm for gardening and stated she has some great contacts with outreach programs that may steer internship students toward the garden as volunteers along with some perspective gardeners. We hope she considers joining this commission, she would be a great asset. 3) Leases for Town-owned Farmland, with the assistance of our liaison, Jason Bowsza, we hope that this item # 3 and items #1 and #2 can be slated on the February 18, selectmen meeting for further review and discussion and approval.
  
- FARMERS MARKET- 4)The East Windsor Farmers Market and the Connecticut Trolley Museum are again working together for another great market season. There is a meeting planned for February for all parties involved. Jans hard work as the Market Master, is really paying off this year with hopes of a ever expanding vender list from farms from all over the area. 5)AG Viability Grants, Al and Jason discussed how there will be a few grants available in the near future that would be a perfect match to apply for with the farmers market in mind.

#### 6) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Chairman, Albert Grant
- Vice Chairman, Jan Warren
- Secretary, Kirk Montstream

7) Agricultural Commission Bylaws, Al presented the commission with a draft copy of our bylaws, these are to be reviewed and voted on at the next Ag commission meeting.

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

1) Plan of Conservation and Development, the commission will continue to assist, when called upon, the planning office in any way we can for the completion and submission of the 2014 POCD

#### **VII. MISCELLANEOUS**

Kirk plans to attend a workshop, this Saturday, sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, at Goodwin Colledge. The event is to inform and provide State of Connecticut information that is geared for Local Government Ag. Commissions and town planners.

#### **VII. REPORTS OF STAFF**

#### **IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Jason provided the commission with a handout about an workshop on January 29. Governor's Council for Agricultural Development. This workshop is to address the issues of Food Safety, Infrastructure, Producer education and Marketing.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Jim made a motion to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Jan  
Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Montstream, Secretary, East Windsor Agriculture Commission