

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes

September 25, 2014

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Albert Grant

**II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

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

**III. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 24, 2014 minutes were reviewed and approved. Pete motioned, Kirk 2nd, Jan abstained, passed unanimously

**V. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- **COMMUNITY GARDEN-** We discussed the garden and how interest continues to grow and here are some of the highlights:
  - we have a operating budget, through donations of \$550.00
  - lots of late season veggies are still to be picked in the next few weeks
  - a large portion of the garden has been disc harrowed, the rest when the garden is empty
  - Pete is putting together some ideas for a sign
  - Al has contacted a sign building contractor, a permanent sign may cost around \$450.00
  - this commission owes member Jim, some garden hose that he supplied for our gardeners
  - our good friend Chris would like to put together some garden workshops for the spring
- **FARMERS MARKET-** Jan brought us up to speed on all the great things going on with this years Farmers Market held every weekend at the Trolley Museum. Her hard work and all the assistance of the farmers and vendors and live music have really paid off. The weekly event is well attended and supported by the community.
- **FARM LEASE-** This commission was asked by the Board of Selectmen, to supply them with a draft lease designed for leasing out town owned properties. We were supplied with existing leases that the town now uses and were asked for input on drafting a single draft of a lease that could be used for all town owned properties. This commission reviewed all the existing leases and made some changes and drafted a new lease agreement. Kirk is to put all the recommendations together to forward a DRAFT back to the board.

## **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**

## **VII. REPORTS OF STAFF**

## **IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Carol Madore, Town Assessor, stopped in and gave us some great input on how the process of Town Owned Properties are taxed. Things to note that we discussed:

- she pulled some property cards for us and where very helpful
- vacant town property is exempt from taxes UNTIL it has a tenant on it
- formula for figuring town owned property taxes owed when a tenant occupies the

property is as follows:  $(70\% \text{ of land value}) \div (\# \text{ of acres}) \times (.02978 \text{ mill rate}) = (\text{tax cost per acre})$

Thank you Carol, for helping us putting together information for a DRAFT lease.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Pete 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