

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes

April 28, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Albert Grant

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established, members present; Albert Grant, Janice Warren, Jim Stremper, Kirk Montstream and Bill Syme

Also present; Jason Bowsza and Joe Kennedy jr. from the South Windsor Agricultural Community

III. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March minutes were reviewed and approved. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Bill and seconded by Jim. Motioned passed

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Water for the Community Garden and Dog Park

The Agriculture Commission and the East Windsor Dog Park would like to give out a special THANK YOU to the East Windsor Public Works. The crews and the administration have been working hard and helping with the project of getting fresh water across Reservoir Road to both the dog park and garden. This project still has some more things to be done, but we really do appreciate all the work that you do.

2. Pollinators Garden

Bill Syme has has a great idea to plant wild flowers within the garden where plots won't be rented. This is a great venture that not only give the local pollinators a perfect habitat, but will visually enhance the entire garden for all to enjoy.

3. Farm Bureau proposed program presentation

The Farm Bureau has asked the Agriculture Commission if we would like to sponsor a local agricultural speaking. We said yes, motion for this event is listed below. The topic we chose is "Pollinators". We are hoping to set up are date for late spring. This will be an interesting topic for not only the community garden, but the entire town. Plenty of literature will be on hand, hoping the bureau supplies videos and speakers for this event. The commission is hoping to secure a date at the Scout Hall on Abbe Road so there would be plenty of room for all.

Motion was made by Jim to have this commission except the Farm Bureau invitation to host an event and to seek permission from the Scout Hall to have the event there sometime this spring. Seconded by Al. Motion passed unanimously

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- FARMERS COFFEE EVENT - April 2nd at the Melrose Historic District School was a great time for all who attended. This commission plans on having this event again next year.

Motion made by Al for the reimbursement of funds to Kirk Montstream for postage and refreshments for the Farmers Coffee Event, seconded by Jan. Motion passed unanimously.

- COMMUNITY GARDEN- General discussion on this year's plans for the garden. Al staked out all the garden plots. There are 9 plots rented as of this meeting, with more expected as the growing season nears. The commission will plant wild flowers on the remaining garden, that which isn't rented out to local gardeners. The horse drawn plowing event enjoyed a great turnout. The commission is already planning next year's event, some ideas include having a port-a-poty, a concession stand and maybe seeking a local sponsor for this great event.

Motion was made by Jim to allow Al Grant to purchase a bundle of grade stakes for the garden and seek reimbursement after doing so, seconded by Kirk. Passed unanimously

- FARMERS MARKET- Opening day will be June 26 through the 1st Sunday in October. The market continues to be doing very well, Wic and food stamps will gain be accepted this season. Jan and Al to set up an appointment with the First Selectman, to discuss the insurance of the market.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

VIII. REPORTS OF STAFF

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

X. ADJOURNMENT

Jim made a motion to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Bill
Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kirk Montstream, Secretary, East Windsor Agriculture Commission