

December 18, 2012

Lee Agricultural Commission

Present for this months' Christmas party were: Erick and Tina Sawtelle, Dwight Barney, Carole Dennis, Paul and Annie Gasowski, Chuck and Laurel Cox, Donna Lee Woods, Laura Gund.

After enjoying some refreshments, we had a short meeting.

Dwight, first of all, expressed appreciation to Laurel Cox for the time and energy she has given to the town and thanked her for all she has accomplished during her years of employment. She has resigned as of December 31, 2012.

Minutes: Minutes of November 27, 2012 accepted. Carole wondered about the child used on the brochure and how we came to select this photo.

Finances: DonnaLee had a statement: \$9407.03 on hand. We have received \$1500 from our budget request. We also voted to pay \$100 to the Grange for the use of the building during the Lee Fair and also, \$100 to the young man who played his violin during the farmers markets this past summer. *Laura motioned to make these payments, Dwight 2nded and it was approved.*

Brochure: The brochure is going to press this week and should be ready next week!! Carole offered to pick them up in Concord. Talked about where the brochures will go: extension agents, other organizations, Farm & Forest, Winter Markets, Department of Agriculture, Big E, NHFB, other Ag. Commissions, etc. How many to advertisers? There will surely be a second printing later on as 1000 will not last long! We should be able to put it on the website and we can have it available at the deliberative session on February 2nd.

Photos: We talked about taking photos of farm activities throughout the year and having a collection of photos available for use on the brochure, and possibly the town web site.

Backyard Farming Initiative: There is a new schedule. Donna Lee and Paul have been working on plans for doing a video of the programs, possibly working with ORHS students. Paul is working on this, possibly having a student do the video and working with Paul. Arrangements have been made to use the Grange Hall. The Grange has requested an insurance rider for the use of the building for these programs. *Motion made by Laura to authorize the spending of \$50 each time the Grange is used for one of these programs. Dwight seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

What about refreshments at these programs? Possibly coffee and light refreshments after the program. Dwight felt the time should be changed from 7-8 to 7-9 to accommodate refreshments and conversations after the program. Advertising for the program will be in Laurel's Agriculture and Conservation Newsletter coming out the end of the month. It is also on the library website. It could be in the Market Bulletin with a phone number for information, Seacoast Local and at the Farmers' Markets.

ORCooperative School District: Doris Demers (title?) went to the Durham Agricultural Commission and would like to come to one of our meetings. She may want to meet with farmers who might want to grow for the school and discuss a contract arrangement. She is presently working on last year's warrant

article money which needs to be spent by June 30th. She would ideally like to buy whatever she can from Durham, Lee and Madbury. There are a lot of questions to be answered: what does she want? How does she want it? How to contract between the farmers and ORCSD? We might have a meeting between the involved people in each of the three towns.

Carole discussed changes to the food pyramid.

Laurel brought bags and sweatshirts from Farmers Market and FLOS (Friends Of Lee Open Spaces) which are available and for sale.

Next meeting: January 29, 2013.

Minutes submitted by Laura Gund