

July 29, 2014

Lee Agricultural Commission

Present: Erick Sawtelle, Dwight Barney, Steve Haendler, Donna-Lee Woods, Laura Gund, Paul Gasowski and Chuck Cox.

Guest Ray Connor from Pittsfield.

After introductions, Ray Connor explained her visit to this Commission. Pittsfield is looking to start an Agricultural Commission and she was “checking us out.” We discussed with Ray our beginnings as a committee, then becoming a commission, going through procedures, etc.

**Minutes** of June 24 were read and accepted, with the addition of Chuck Cox’ name to the list of attendees.

**Budget:** As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, there was \$1318 in the Farmers’ Market account and \$4281.71 in the Agricultural Commission account. The Backyard Farming Initiative DVD invoice is “in the mail” and that will come out of our funds.

**Brochure:** The end of this week is the final date for changes/additions to the brochure. Paul showed the brochure in its present state – looking good. We discussed various details of the brochure, the photos, etc.

**Lee Fair:** We need someone else to do the Pickle/ Pie/ Relish and Sweet Breads contest. Possibly Amanda Gourgue? We will advertise in the e-crier for someone to run the Dessert Contest and for folks to bring desserts to the fair. We discussed the cost of both chicken and pork, which will undoubtedly be more than last year. Also, discussed the availability of local produce, potatoes, corn, etc. We’ll need a card table with tickets and brochures, set up near the pig roast. Roger Rice will coordinate garbage pickup. Farm Games will be similar to last year, with different age and gender categories. . For youngsters there will be wheelbarrow races, hay bale toss. Paul will do tickets and posters, as he already has templates set up. Price will be the same \$10 and \$5.

**Food Hub** in Durham: Chuck reported on the group looking to start a food hub in Durham. It turns out it will take more study as this project is more complicated than they thought.

**Backyard Farming Initiative:** There will be five sessions this coming year, involving ten different farms. The farmers will explain how they got started in farming, talking about working their way through various regulations, etc.

Next meeting will be September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Minutes submitted by Laura Gund