

Approved Minutes of the Agriculture Commission for Sept. 28, 2015

Attending: Cindy Jenkins, Bob Copp, Walter Nordstrom, Dieter Ebert, Lisa Cote
Visitors: The Corbetts from Community Garden

Call to order: 7:10 pm

The Corbetts presented an entertaining slide show covering their gardening experiments, failures, and successes at the Community Garden. It was appreciated by everyone and Cindy will recommend to the School Greenhouse Committee that they invite the Corbett's to make their short presentation to them as well.

The greenhouse has an active group serving on the committee to guide activities there. Rachel Robie is facilitating meetings and she reports that there is widespread participation and activity going on. Bob Hamilton has been enabling an expansion of the square foot garden concept for students, as well as helping create a lovely, fenced in outdoor garden space.

Of interest to the Agriculture Commission are the changes Planning Board is working on regarding the sign ordinance and changing the way riding stables and green house structures and agricultural accessory buildings are handled in the ordinance.

The community garden needs to be restructured to combine gardens for more efficiency and ease of roto-tilling and fencing. There has been a loss of gardeners this past season and it is hoped those garden changes plus more advertising of the garden, will generate more interest. The new plan will provide some single gardens for those active gardeners currently maintaining their single gardens. It will combine other gardens to make one large garden that can be fenced in for many gardens within the fencing similar to Hampton and Rye. Lisa and the Corbetts will be exploring that concept.

Pam Hopkins has retired from the Ag Commission and is moving to Wolfeboro. Bob Copp is also retiring from the Ag Commission. We need to solicit new members for the commission.

