



Town of Candia
Agricultural Commission
74 High Street
Candia, New Hampshire 03034

FINAL MINUTES

September 2, 2021

Thursday 7:00 PM

Candia Town Hall

Commission Members present: Chair Matthew Cobb, Vice Chair June Petrin, Robin Vergato, Tom DiMaggio, Ron Howe, Joe Lamarche (arrived 7:18PM).

Commission Alternates present: Debra Cobb, Pattie Davis, Darrel Nafranowicz, Ken Madden.

Call to Order

- *Chair Matthew Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.
- *Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Commission Members and Alternates.

Public in Attendance

- *No Public attended.

Regular Business

***Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting on August 5, 2021**

-Moved by Tom DiMaggio , seconded by June Petrin, passed unanimously.

***Treasurer's Report**

-Debra Cobb reported that there is not update as Donna Becker is on vacation.

Old Business

***Old Home Day Recap**

- Was a successful event for the Agricultural Commission. The set up worked well. Matt Cobb will write thank you notes to the rewards donations (Syrups, Soaps, and Gift Cards).

*** Farmer's Market Update**

-It was well attended again. There were a few new vendors. There were several vegetable vendors. There has been steady attendance. The soap maker has not attended.

-It was suggested that having Bi-weekly Farmer's Markets next year be considered. There are preparations for these events and getting a Market Manager could be beneficial. A review and further discussion related to the Farmer's Markets will be discussed at the November meeting after all 5 Farmer's Markets have been held.

-There has been a lot of progress with the Farmer's Markets. There has been encouragement and talk within the town, especially on Face Book.

-It was suggested that there be a field trip to visit other local Farmer's Markets. A mailing will be considered to thank vendors/volunteers and inquire about interest in next year's Farmer's Markets.

-Matt Cobb talked to Rolande Girard who can commit to the October Farmer's Market and talk about farming equipment and related tools.

-The Baptist Church will be attending the next Farmer's Market to handout fliers on Liberty House, Real Life Giving, and the Women's VA Center. This will not have a religious focus and they are paying for a table.

-There will be music at the next Farmer's Market by Meg Morenz and Miss USA NH, Veronica Bosworth, will attend. Pattie Davis will do a small animal display.

-Tom DiMaggio will reach out to Bear Brook to see if they are interested in attending in October. Matt Cobb has offered to do a question and answer with attendees.

-The September Farmer's Market will have pumpkins and corn stalks.

-The Conservation Commission has expressed interest in attending in attending again and Tom DiMaggio will confirm.

-The Forester cannot attend the next Farmer's Market.

-\$195 has been deposited with Donna Becker, with a profit of \$85.

-Two signs have disappeared after they were put up. The signs will be larger next year for increased visibility.

***Lecture Series for Winter 21-22**

-Matt Cobb contacted the Library to inquire about using their room as a venue and there has not yet been a response.

-There was a discussion around possible speakers: Greg Jordan, Extension Service County Forester for Rockingham County; Chris Schadler, NH Coyote Project/Founder of NH Wildlife Coalition.

-A potential start for the Lecture Series in November. The Lecture Series will be held November, January, February, March, and April-likely will skip December.

-Other potential presenters could be by a Master Gardener, Equine/Livestock person. Matt Cobb will follow up on this.

-Other venues to hold the Lectures Series at were discussed including Jesse Remington. Matt Cobb will inquire about 4 potential sites.

-Tom DiMaggio and Darrel Nafranowicz will each talk with a potential presenter.

***Commission Membership**

-Cody Wood has expressed interest in joining the Agricultural Commission and sent Matt Cobb an email, which the Commission members reviewed. Ron Howe made a motion to invite Cody Wood to join as an alternate, seconded by Tom DiMaggio, passed unanimously.

-There was a discussion to see if any current alternates would like to move to a voting member. Darrel Nafranowicz is interested in moving up and Chair Matt Cobb will submit a letter of interest to the Board of Selectman. There was a motion by Tom DiMaggio to move

forward with this request, seconded by Ron Howe, passed unanimously. This would fill Jenny Gardner's term that goes until March of 2023.

-There is still one voting member and one alternate still open. Anyone interested must be a Candia resident.

New Business

***Budget for 2022**

-There was a discussion around if there is a need to ask for money via warrant article. The request would need to be submitted by January. The Town granted \$1,000 to the Agricultural Commission two years ago. The Agricultural Commission is currently self-sustaining.

***Farmer's Market Business Cards**

-Business cards would be helpful for distribution to raise awareness around the Farmer's Market.

***Lee Agricultural Commission BBQ**

-The Candia Agricultural Commission members are invited to attend on September 11.

Public Comment

-No Public comments.

Next Meeting: October 7, 2021, Thursday at 7:00PM.

Adjournment

*Chair Matthew Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:00PM, moved by Tom DiMaggio, seconded by June Petrin, all in favor unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted by,
Robin Vergato, Secretary**