



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

**FINAL MINUTES**

**May 5, 2022**

**Thursday 7:00 PM**

**Candia Town Hall**

Commission Members present: Chair Matthew Cobb, Robin Vergato, Tom DiMaggio, Joe Lamarche (arrived at 7:12PM), Darrel Nafranowicz, Ron Howe.

Commission Alternates present: Pattie Davis (arrived at 7:10PM), Ken Madden, Debra Cobb, Cody Wood. Excused: Heidi Bothwell.

**Call to Order**

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

**Regular Business**

- \***Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting on April 7, 2022.**
  - Moved by Darrel Nafranowicz, seconded by Tom DiMaggio, passed unanimously.

- \***Treasurer's Report**
  - No update.

**Public in Attendance**

- \*Melissa Madden attended and has expressed interest in joining the Agricultural Commission as a member

**Old Business**

- \***Lecture Series:**
  - The May Lecture on Composting and Manure was held on 5/3 at Charming Fare Farm. The presenter canceled the day of the Lecture. Cody Wood stepped in and presented.
  - The Lecture series is done until next winter. There needs to be a focus on increasing attendance. An email list of attendees would be helpful for distribution of information around

each Lecture. It might be helpful to have people sign up ahead of time and make a commitment to attend.

--The bird Lecture was a success.

-There was a discussion around how to market the Lecture series. Lectures and dates could be put in the Calendar of the Town Report next year, in the Hooksett Banner, and the local newspaper. Ideas for future Lecture topics were discussed.

#### **\*Farmer's Market Update**

-Melissa Madden is taking over for June Petrin and provided an update. There are approximately 25 vendors attending including two Breweries in a tasting area. There will be entertainment for each month that is lined up. A Master Gardener will present in September. Presenters are needed for other months. Possible presenters were discussed.

-Pattie Davis provided an update. Vendors will need to sign a waiver. Larger signs have been ordered. The banner will be displayed by the library. The Farmer's Market information needs to be updated.

-There will be Agricultural Commission members at each Farmer's Market. Ken Madden and Matt Cobb will put up signs prior to each Market.

-Another tent/awning will be needed.

-The Community table will need help. Contributors will need to sign a notarized waiver and provide a price list. Three people want to sell their vegetables at the table. There will be a person selling jam. Perhaps there can be information available on how to make jam or pickle vegetables. There was a discussion around how to better organize the Community table.

-Every Monday 4-5 vendors will be posted on Facebook and around town to help promote.

The first Farmer's Market is on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **\*Moore School Agriculture Day**

-It will be held on May 26, 2022, with a rain date of May 27, 2022.

-There is a good list of exhibitors. Would like to have a horse wagon team to give the children rides. There will be further inquiry on who will need fencing.

#### **\*Membership Update**

-Vice Chair June Petrin stepped down leaving one position for a voting member and an opening for Vice Chair. The Bi-laws recommend that the voting member come from an existing alternate. No alternates are interested in becoming a voting member. There was a motion made by Darrel Nafranowicz, seconded by Ron Howe, that Melissa Madden be considered for the voting member position. Melissa Madden will write a letter to the Board of Selectman expressing interest. Chair Matt Cobb will write a recommendation on behalf of the Agricultural Commission in support of Melissa Madden joining as a voting member.

-June Petrin's term is from April 2022 through 2025, a 3-year term.

-There was a discussion around interest in the Vice Chair position.

### **New Business**

#### **NRCS/UNHCE Offerings**

-There was a discussion around cost sharing and resources that are offered by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Perhaps they can attend one of the Farmer's Markets.

-UNH Continuing Education has a library of past seminars and webinars. There was a discussion around how people can access those.

-It is possible if any of the Agricultural Commission Lecture series are held via Zoom, they could be recorded and made available to people i.e., posted on the Agricultural Commission Facebook page.

#### **Heritage Barn Inspections**

-The Heritage Commission is no longer functioning. Town members can receive a tax break on property taxes if they have a barn with historical significance that was used at one point for agricultural purposes. For the tax break the town member must agree to maintain the barn for 10 years and have a ½ hour inspection once a year.

-There was a discussion around the Agricultural Commission taking over the Heritage Barn Inspections program. Chair Matt Cobb will reach out to the Board of Selectman.

#### **Public Comment**

-No Public comments.

**Next Meeting:** June 2, 2022, Thursday at 7:00PM.

#### **Adjournment**

\*Chair Matt Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:08PM, moved by Tom DiMaggio, seconded by Ron Howe, all in favor unanimously.

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