



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

**FINAL MINUTES**

**July 7, 2022**

**Thursday 7:00 PM**

**Candia Town Hall**

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

Commission Alternates present: Debra Cobb, Pattie Davis, Heidi Bothwell. Excused Ken Madden.

**Call to Order**

\*Chair Matthew Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

\*Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Commission Members and Alternates.

**Public in Attendance**

No public attendance.

**Regular Business**

\***Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting June 2, 2022** with one minor typographical edit.

-Moved by Melissa Madden, seconded by Ron Howe, passed unanimously.

\***Treasurer's Report**

-Debra Cobb reported there is balance of \$3,141.82 in the Agricultural Commission bank account. \$420.08 expenditure with \$58.00 credited back from the cancelled check to UNH. \$315.00 collected from Vendors.

\***Approval of the treasures report**

-Moved by Tom DiMaggio, seconded by Melissa Madden, passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

\***Candia Farmer's Market (CFM) Update**

-Morgan Moran with the NH Food Bank SNAP and EBT program attended via zoom to present to the commission and recommend the use of SNAP and Market Match at our Farmers

Market, through the Granite State Market Match Program. The program supports fresh foods, fruits and vegetables. The NH Food Bank will supply the machine needed to scan SNAP/EBT cards in exchange for tokens and paper vouchers. The paper vouchers are part of the Match program to be used for fruits and vegetables only. The Food Bank will provide the training and the list of approved purchased. All vendors that sell approved purchased have to agree to be part of the program or the Food Bank won't approve our market. Ms. Moran provided details on foods allowed by the program and will send documentation which we can share with our vendors. Ms. Moran said someone would have to run the machine and they have volunteers that can assist us. We will need to complete a FNS application with the USDA which she advised takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. The Approval process can take 2 weeks to a month and then they will issue a temporary FNS#. They will also provide advertising for our market. We will need a separate bank account to handle the money being deposited via the debit machine. The vendors will turn in their tokens and vouchers at the end of the market. We will reimburse our vendors the day of the market. Once we get approval this will open up the Farmers market to other government programs. We will have access to other training materials, demonstrations etc., i.e., how to preserve food. Deb Cobb will follow up to determine what is needed to get a separate bank account set up. Melissa Madden will work with Ms. Moran to obtain the necessary information to provide to our vendors and get them on board with this program. The commission members present were all in favor of our market becoming a SNAP/EBT accessible market.

Tom DiMaggio provided 3 boxes full of vegetable and flower seeds complements of Lowe's.

With the complements of our sponsors through Charmingfare Farm and Gemini Valve, a direct mailing advertisement is being sent to 5500 homes in Candia, Auburn, and Deerfield.

Contest in July is ready. We are looking for prizes totaling \$500 or more. Each vendor has donated to the contest and we are seeking additional support from other sponsors. Posters will be out at the Market. Sign up via a QR code to enter for free. The winner will be announced in August and must be at the August Market to collect their prizes. We will also be running the contest on Facebook for one week. We are seeking contacts and emails addresses to continue to advertise our market.

The Forum in Deerfield will also run a front-page article for us as they lost our email last month in June.

We purchased more signs and 1 more flag sign.

### **\*Lecture Series for Winter 22-23**

Pattie Davis is working on the Canning lecture/demo and have an actual demonstration. Also looking into venue for that program. One the Wing has not responded to our request to have them return in the spring. We will follow up.

The library hasn't responded yet to us using them for our lecture series.

We need to let Heidi know of the wasp's nest in the bushes at the back door of the library, discovered when volunteers were trimming the trees and bushes to improve visibility and safety.

Pattie Davis has also been in touch with UNH regarding their RCCD with Soil Tent Display geared towards 4<sup>th</sup> graders. It is called Envirothon. It is a tent that is painted to display the ground and the makeup of the ground, to be considered as a kids activity at the market.

**\*Old Home Days**

-Old Home days is scheduled for August 27<sup>th</sup>, from 11-2. Set up is at 9am. The application is \$25.00 for a 10/10 spot. We all agreed that the Envirothon would be a much better Activity for Old Home Days. We would need to rent 2 spots. The cost of the Envirothon is \$100. Pattie Davis will find out if they are available on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August.

Chair, Matt Cobb has a grinding wheel/stone that he will bring. It is used to sharpen knives.

**New Business**

**\*Alternate Position**

Cody Wood has withdrawn from the commission as he is leaving Candia. His position is now available. Heidi Bothwell announced she is also leaving Candia and as such she must also withdraw. Heidi Bothwell wants to continue to volunteer at the Candia Farmers Market with us. Her position also now available.

The positions will be posted. We will also post the open positions at the Farmers Market.

**Public Comment**

-No Public comments.

**Next Meeting:** July 28, 2022, Thursday at 7:00PM.

Chair Matt Cobb and Treasurer Deb Cobb will not be available to attend on 8/4/22. It was agreed to move the meeting to Julye 28, 2022.

**Adjournment**

\*Chair Matthew Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:36PM, moved by Melissa Madden, seconded by Tom DiMaggio, all in favor unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted by,  
Darrel Nafranowicz for Robin Vergato, Secretary**