

Hollis Agricultural Commission

Thursday, October 12th, 2023



NAMES OF ATTENDEES

M. Post, T. Hardy, M. Madden, R. Clark, D. Petry. Visitor: Jeff Begin

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:47pm.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

New Membership

Jeff Begin is present and interested in joining the Ag Commission in the open alternate position. Jeff submitted a volunteer interest form with Town Hall and introduced himself. Recently moved to Hollis he has a professional history in high technology and now runs Begin Family Farm in Hollis. Jeff is interested in becoming involved to learn from others in the ag community help promote agriculture.

Law Property

M. Post stated the Conservation Commission is pursuing a conservation easement funding opportunity for land acquisitions from the NRCS. There is a working group established to help pursue the opportunity and C. Quaine and M. Post are Ag Com representatives. T. Hardy suggested the working group reaches out to D. Juneau from FSA to obtain the applicable land maps.

Living With Agriculture

M. Post suggested the Commission features the Stefanowicz property next year. The Lessee provided an update and stated the invasives should be addressed next January, land reclamation is planned for next spring, the upper area drainage is in the works, and a new maple tapper will be on site. An estimated 28 acres should be recovered for planting with the lower areas featuring trails. M. Post stated the goal is to increase awareness for the public on the benefits of the land reclamation and that public access will be available.

Trail Signage

M. Post is coordinating with E. McIntyre to install additional signage to direct the public to the top of the hill on Woodmont West. This will ensure that the public will remain on designated trails with FSMA in mind.

Tractor Parade For the Luminary Event

The Commission questioned whether there will be a Luminary event and whether will there be a tractor parade. T. Hardy stated the local 4H, equestrian, and other farms are planning to participate in a parade and anticipates a good turn out.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M. Post motioned to accept the public minutes for the commission meeting on September 14th, 2023, R. Clark second, motioned passed 4-0-0. M. Post motioned to accept the non-public minutes for the commission meeting on September 14th, 2023, R. Clark second, motioned passed 4-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Post motioned to adjourn at 8:43pm, R. Clark second, motion passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by M. Madden, Secretary