

Hollis Agricultural Commission

Thursday, November 9th, 2023



NAMES OF ATTENDEES

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

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

New Membership

Jeff Begin is present as a visitor and has not been formally approved by the Select Board yet. M. Post has submitted Jeff's information to L. Radke in Town Hall and D. Petry confirmed that Jeff's membership is on the agenda for the SB meeting on November 13th.

NRCS ACEP-ALE Grant

The HCC joint working group (JWG) pursuing a grant to conserve land through purchase of an agricultural land easement (ALE) has not yet met. P. Band is leading the group and will be scheduling a time to meet in December. C. Quaine and M. Post have volunteered to participate on the JWG. T. Dufresne is trying to schedule a meeting with Tracey Boisvert from the USDA NRCS in Concord to introduce the HCC/JWG to the program and process.

Law Property

The Law property is currently hayed under a maintenance agreement with the town. The maintenance agreement includes mowing back invasives from the edges of the fields and maintaining a public access path to the eastern part. The HCC JWG is planning to hold a public input session on potential future uses sometime in the new year. R. Clark felt that with few remaining hayers in Town the Town should look for more productive agricultural uses of the property in order to keep conservation costs down in the future. R. Clark and M. Madden have volunteered to participate in the Law JWG.

Trail Signage

M. Post contacted E. McIntyre of the Trails Committee to obtain some standard town trail markers that can be posted at Woodmont marking appropriate trails that protect food safety during the growing season. Eric pointed to the Forest Committee has the group that has access to the markers. M. Post will follow up with them.

Living With Agriculture

M. Post suggested the Commission features the Stefanowicz property work at next year's Old Home Days. T. Hardy felt that the work would have achieved significant progress suitable for publicity. M. Post stated the goal is to increase awareness for the public on the benefits of agricultural land conservation and reclamation and increase awareness of the public access opportunities. J. Begin volunteered to learn about the property and history and create some public education material by Fall '24. M. Post will share electronic copies of the work with Jeff.

Tractor Parade for the Luminary Event

T. Hardy confirmed that the tractor parade is still scheduled to be part of the Luminaire event on Saturday December 9. Approximately 12-15 tractors and trailers will be in the parade

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M. Post motioned to accept the public minutes for the commission meeting on October 12, 2023, R. Clark second, motioned passed 4-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Quaine motioned to adjourn at 8.33pm, R. Clark second, motion passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by M. Post, Acting Secretary