

Hollis Agricultural Commission

Thursday, December 14th, 2023



NAMES OF ATTENDEES

J. Begin, R. Clark, J. Dufresne, M. Post, C. Quaine,

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:36pm.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

New Membership

Jeff Begin was approved by the Select Board as an Alternate Member at their meeting on November 13th.

NRCS ACEP-ALE Program

The HCC joint working group (JWG) pursuing the grant had their first meeting attended by Q. Quaine and M. Post. Peter Band will be working with Town Hall to start the Entity Application for required for town participation the ACEP. Tom Dufresne and M. Post had a meeting with Tracey Boisvert from the USDA NRCS in Concord to introduce the HCC/JWG to the program and process. The town goals for agricultural land protection seem to be a good fit for the ACEP criteria and Tracey was very encouraging. The JWG meets monthly, second Thursday @ 6:30 in the upstairs meeting room in Town Hall.

R. Clark joined the meeting at 7:50pm

Law Property

J. Begin and M. Post recently walked the Law property. The property seems to be well maintained according to the maintenance agreement with the HCC, R. Clark and M. Madden have volunteered to participate in the Law JWG and the HCC is planning to hold a public input session on potential future uses sometime in the new year. J. Begin felt that the property has a wide range of terrain and might be best served with a variety of crops rather than a single use. R. Clark reiterated that with few remaining hayens in Town the Town should look for more productive agricultural uses of the property in order to keep long-term conservation costs down. M. Post will work with HCC to schedule the public information session.

Living With Agriculture

J. Begin will be working on some public education material on the Stefanowicz agricultural restoration project by Fall '24. M. Post shared electronic copies of some of the materials regarding the history, agricultural uses and recommendations used during the public leasing process.

Annual Town Report

Annual report is due to the Town by January 12, 2024. M. Post will create an initial draft of the Ag Comm annual report for inclusion in the Annual Meeting Town Report. He will distribute copies before our next meeting January 11, 2024.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

R. Clark motioned to accept the public minutes for the Agricultural Commission meeting on November 9, 2023, C. Quaine second, motioned passed 5-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Clark motioned to adjourn at 8:27pm, C. Quaine second, motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by M. Post, Acting Secretary