

Hollis Agricultural Commission Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Members in attendance: T. Hardy, A. Pitarys, M. Post, D. Petry

- Meeting called to order at 7:36pm.
- The Commission discussed the Town Meeting warrant articles. M. Post noted that the article to restore the Stefanowicz house lot to the status that was described in the original 2016 warrant article was tabled.
- Woodmont West trails update. T. Hardy is still working on the updated trail map that was designed in the January, 2019 Ag Comm meeting with the Trails Committee and the current agricultural lessee. He should have the updated maps ready for publication at the May Ag Comm meeting.
- Stefanowicz update
 - M. Post noted that the Ag/Conservation Comm Joint Working Group (JWG) will be doing a site walk with the current lessee soon. The town is currently in the middle of a two-year lease in effect until 10/31/2020, and as part of the lease, the JWG and lessee will evaluate the status of erosion of the agricultural road to the upper parts of the property. The lessee is responsible for maintenance of the road using materials supplied by the town.
 - M. Post shared with Commission preliminary drawings of potential rec field sites shared at April's Rec Commission meeting. One of the sites under consideration was the lower fields at Stefanowicz by Pine Hill Road. The Ag Commission noted that drawings include a boardwalk over wetlands to provide access to the field. Commission members also noted that in addition to having the highest prime soils, these fields are always soft and wet and frequently flood. The preliminary plans do not show any fill being added to raise the field to a level that would make the fields usable for recreational purposes. T. Hardy noted that the preliminary plans show no emergency vehicle access to the field and that a road would likely have to be built through the wetland to supply such access. M. Post will contact the County Conservation Service to get flood plain maps for the property.
 - M. Post mentioned that he had been informed by members of other town committees that D. Belanger has been soliciting input for moving other recreation/historic uses to Stefanowicz, including the Trails and Heritage Committees. Proposals have been mentioned that include moving the horse riding ring and the cooper shed to the wetland area at the intersection of Pine Hill and Nartoff Roads. D. Petry will ask the Rec Comm to provide an update at the next BOS meeting.

- Motioned by T. Hardy and seconded by A. Pitarys to accept the minutes as written from the Ag Comm meeting of March 14, 2019. Approved 4-0-0.
- The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2019
- Motioned by M. Post, seconded by T. Hardy to adjourn the meeting. Approved 4-0-0.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:25

Respectfully submitted by M. Post, Acting Secretary