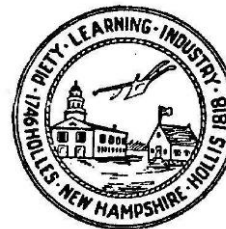


Hollis Agricultural Commission

Thursday, December 9th, 2021



NAMES OF ATTENDEES

M. Post, T. Hardy, D. Harmon, M. Madden, C. Husk.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Woodmont

Nichols-Smith put up stakes in late October to mark an area they would like to have for sparrows. The position of the Ag Com and direction from the SB representative is that the area of agriculture is determined by the lessee conforming to the primary purpose of the easement. There is potential at the annual review that this issue would arise. The only possible fallout of having to accommodate the sparrows is to stop planting. There is no obligation to create a habitat, etc. Going forward, the Ag Com will address the issue further if a claim is made.

Tractor Parade

T. Hardy states there will be about 6 or 7 participants. Participants should show up at 3:30pm, and the tractors will depart at 4:15pm. T. Hardy has coordinated with the Hollis police. Bag lighting will start at 3:00pm.

2021 Annual Report

M. Post shared a draft of the Annual Report for review. There were no changes suggested.

Nichols-Smith Conservation Funding

Nichols-Smith has requested, relating to the monitoring of Woodmont, an increase in budget from \$10,000 to \$34,000 for legal fees from potential pipeline, etc.. T. Hardy states that there should be consideration as to whether the Town has a desire to continue to utilize Nichols-Smith to monitor. D. Harmon questioned whether there is any requirement for the town to provide funding? M. Post states the conservation easement may state Nichols Smith monitoring it specifically. T. Hardy states the main Land Trusts familiar with conservation monitoring of agricultural land are Land for Good, the Trustee's Organization, Green Belt, and Piscataway which could be alternatives that may be less expensive.

2022 Initiatives

M. Post suggested the Ag Comm should complete the installation of signs on Woodmont. T. Hardy queried whether the Current Use tax initiative should be restarted. M. Madden stated there could be potential to outline and communicate our 2021 research on Current Use tax. T. Hardy states there is potential to partner with HCC on acquiring conservation land for the purposes of agriculture. M. Post states there is still a large appetite for acquisition and preservation of land. Conservation Commission is looking at properties, and additional LUCT tax will be coming in, so interest in ag properties should be a priority, either currently producing parcels or restoration of existing parcels brought into production. T. Hardy suggested advocating tractor safety as a priority, and perhaps inviting the police department to a meeting next spring to discuss initiatives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

D. Harmon motioned to accept the public minutes for the commission meeting on October 14, 2021, M. Post second, motioned passed 5-0-0.

D. Harmon motioned to accept the non-public minutes for the commission meeting on October 14th, 2021, M. Post second, motioned passed 5-0-0.

ENTERING INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION

M. Post made the motion to enter into non-public session, in accordance with RSA 91-a:3 II (d) (land acquisition). D. Harmon second, motion passed 5-0-0 and the commission entered non public session at 8:40pm.

RETURNING TO PUBLIC SESSION

D. Harmon motioned to return to public session and to keep the minutes sealed under RSA 91-a:3 II (d). M. Post second, motion passed 5-0-0 and the commission returned to public session at 9:07pm.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Post motioned to adjourn at 9:09, T. Hardy second, motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by M. Madden, Secretary