



RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK, KILLINGLY, CT
2019 OCT 11 AM 8:31

Elizabeth M. Wilson



Killingly Agriculture Commission
WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 09, 2019

Regular Meeting
7:00 pm
Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main Street, Killingly, CT
ROOM 102 – FIRST FLOOR

MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Chair Byron Martin.

Attending: Byron Martin, Frank Anastasio, Amelia Kellner.

Absent without notice: Adam Hunt

Also attending: Adam Griffiths, Town Council Liaison and Marina Capraro, Assistant Planner.

II. Agenda Addendum

None.

III. Citizens Participation [limited to five (5) minutes per speaker for an accumulated time of no more than 30 minutes – unless extended by a majority vote of the commission members]

No Citizen Participation; no-one from general public attended.

IV. Adoption of Minutes – review / discussion / action

A) **Regular Meeting –SEPTEMBER 11, 2019**–Byron made a motion to adopt the minutes; Frank seconded; no further discussion; vote 3/0; motion passed.

V. Real Estate Parcels Classified under Section 490 – review / discussion / action

Staff delivered updates on the 490 survey that were discussed at the September meeting. The board discussed the addition of a few edits on both the survey and cover letter to provide further clarification for participants. Frank made a motion to send out the survey after Virginia's review via email and with a budget of \$200 for postage; Byron seconded; no further discussion; vote 3/0; motion passed.

VI. Reports / General Business – review / discussion /action

A) Classes –

i. **Fruit Canning Class on October 13th** : Amelia's apple sauce canning class is be scheduled for October 13, 2019 at 1:00pm until 3:00pm. The class has 14 participants. Her expenses are covered.

ii. **Future class proposals:** Byron plans to run a class on honeybees in the winter.

B) Other Events – Walktober event cancelled due to EEE threat.

C) Open Space Land Acquisition Committee / Farmland Inventory – meeting / progress report
OSLA Committee met on September 26, 2019. No new business to report.

D) Mother Nature's Garden – meeting / progress report
No progress report.

E) Killingly Community Garden – meeting / review / discussion / action

Staff provided update on KCG's October 2nd meeting. They have a workshop scheduled for November 6th.

F) Tomato Festival – meeting / progress report

Tomato festival had good weather and was well attended. No true way to get "statistics" on visitors. In order to better gauge the success of the event and to receive feedback, the board decided it may be a good idea to send out follow-up letters/surveys for vendors of the festival. Staff will bring a draft of a mailer to the November meeting.

G) Green News Newsletter – meeting / progress report

Frank is planning for a November or December newsletter, to advertise new class offerings.

VII. Town Council Liaison Report – meeting / progress report

Adam Griffiths provided a progress report on the town council; discussion about new open space easement acquisitions that have occurred.

VIII. Other Items – review/discussion/action

A) **CT Dept. of Ag's Agricultural Viability Grant; application deadline November 12th** : Due to a limited time frame to execute the grant application, staff will try to submit by the deadline. The Ag Commission will be applying for funds to expand its offering of agriculture-related workshops in the topics of forestry, organic gardening, permaculture, agro-tourism, hydroponics, aquaculture, and fruit tree pruning. Classes will be an average of 2 hours long. Frank made a motion for Marina to go ahead with putting together an application, and providing it via email to the board before submission; Amelia seconded; vote 3/0; motion passed.

B) **Staff report from American Community Garden Association Conference:** Staff reported a positive experience at the ACGA Conference; will be presenting on experience to HealthQuest group at NDDH and will be conducting a workshop with KCG.

IX. Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – NOVEMBER 13, 2019 – review/discussion/action

At the next meeting, the board shall discuss and finalize the 2020 Ag Commission regular meeting dates. There was a discussion to change the time of the commission's regularly scheduled meeting from 7:00pm to 6:00pm. Staff will take the necessary steps to facilitate a vote on the by-laws for the November meeting.

X. Adjournment

Byron Martin made a motion to adjourn; Frank Anastasio seconded; and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.