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Elizabeth M. Wilson



**Killingly Agriculture Commission**  
**WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 13, 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 by Chair Byron Martin.

Attending: Byron Martin, Frank Anastasio, Amelia Kellner, Virginia Keith

Absent without notice: Adam Hunt (Member)

Absent with notice: Adam Griffiths (Town Council Liaison)

Also attending: Jean Mountford (Citizen Participant) & Marina Capraro (Staff)

**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]:** Citizen Participant, Jean Mountford, was present for meeting and provided input throughout.

**IV. Adoption of Minutes – review / discussion / action**

**A) Regular Meeting – October 09, 2019:** Frank motioned to accept the October meeting minutes on the condition that staff edit the minutes to include '*Absent with notice: Virginia Keith*' under Section I; Amelia seconded; vote 4/0; motion passed.

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

**A) Review of associated costs for postage; discussion on when we will "close" survey:** Discussion on options for postage and associated costs. Marina will go to the post office to get more information on two-way mailers and seek out price options that only require the commission to pay the return postage if the recipient returns the mailer; an update on price will be provided to commission members via email. The commission discussed closing the survey two months after the postage date, and encouraging people to complete the survey ASAP.

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

**A) Classes –**

**i. Fruit Canning Class on October 13<sup>th</sup> : Report from Amelia**

Amelia reported a very positive workshop with full attendance and an engaged crowd. The commission agreed it would be a good class to run again.

**ii. Discussion of future class proposals (including potential Ag Viability grant classes)**

The board and citizen participants discussed other class topics that are of interest: Composting, soil health, farm financing and succession, and container gardening.

**B) Other Events**

None.

**C) Open Space Land Acquisition Committee / Farmland Inventory – meeting / progress report**

No new business to report; OSLA has not held a meeting since September.

**D) Mother Nature's Garden – meeting / progress report**

No progress report.

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

KCG's November meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. The workshop scheduled for the November meeting was rescheduled for their January meeting.

**F) Tomato Festival – meeting / progress report**

- i. **Discussion on option to draft a survey of vendor's experience:** Staff will draft an online survey to email out to vendors that were acquired through the Ag Commission and the P&D department. Will also offer the survey to KPRD to extend to the vendors they had acquired.

**G) Winter Farmer's Market**

Virginia asked the commission if they would support an advertisement for the Winter Farmer's Market in the bargain buyer. Frank motioned for the commission to expend \$140.00 for a ¼ page ad in the Bargain Buyer and Shopper's Guide (\$70 each); Amelia seconded; vote 4/0; motion passed.

**VII. Town Council Liaison Report – meeting / progress report**

Town Council Liaison, Adam Griffiths, was not present for this meeting. No report.

**VIII. Other Items – review/discussion/action**

**A) CT Dept. of Ag's Agricultural Viability Grant; application submitted November 12<sup>th</sup> ; review & discussion**

The commission is happy with the grant and we will anticipate word on funding in January and February.

**B) Vote to amend the Agricultural Commission's By Laws:**

- a. **Change of meeting time on 2020 list of meeting dates from 7:00 PM to 6:00 PM;** The commission decided not to change the meeting time.
- b. **Change of meeting time in Article VIII of the Ag Commission's By-Laws from 7:00 PM to 6:00 PM;** The commission decided not to change the meeting time.
- c. **Elimination of Article XVI – Conducting the Public Hearing;** Virginia made a motion to eliminate article XVI from the Agricultural Commission's By Laws; Amelia seconded; vote 4/0; motion passed.
- d. **Renumbering of Article XVII – Suspending the Rules to Article XVI;** Virginia made a motion to renumber article XVII to article XVI in the Agricultural Commission's By Laws; Amelia seconded; vote 4/0; motion passed.
- e. **Renumbering of Article XVIII to Article XVII;** Virginia made a motion to renumber article XVIII to article XVII in the Agricultural Commission's By Laws; Amelia seconded; vote 4/0; motion passed.

**IX. Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – DECEMBER 11, 2019 – review/discussion/action**

**X. Adjournment**

Byron made a motion to adjourn; Frank seconded; and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.