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Elizabeth M. Wilson



Killingly Agriculture Commission
WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2017
Regular Meeting
7:00 pm
Killingly Town Hall
172 Main Street, Killingly, CT
ROOM 102
MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Attending Frank Anastasio, Byron Martin, Christel Shaw, Virginia Keith; absent without notification Christina Salisbury; Staff attending Ann-Marie L. Aubrey.

NOTE: Frank Anastasio will try to call Christina Salisbury to determine her interest in remaining on the commission.

II. Agenda Addendum

None

III. Public Hearings (as called)

None

IV. 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]

None (See minutes below re: suspension of rules)

V. Adoption of Minutes – review / discussion / action

A) Regular Meeting of October 11, 2017 – Motion made by Virginia Keith to adopt the "AMENDED" minutes of 10/11/2017; Byron Martin seconded the motion; discussion; vote 4 to 0; minutes were adopted.

B) Special Meeting of November 1, 2017 – Motion made by Virginia Keith to table the minutes until the next regular meeting on January 10, 2018; Byron Martin seconded the motion; reason to allow KCG to review their requested changes in the minutes (was a combined meeting of AG COMM & KCG); discussion; vote 4 to 0; minutes tabled to 01/10/2018.

C) Regular Meeting of November 8, 2017 – Motion made by Virginia Keith to adopt minutes of 11/08/2017; Byron Martin seconded the motion; discussion; vote 3/0/1 abstention (Chris Shaw did not attend meeting); minutes were adopted.

D) Special Meeting of December 6, 2017 – Minutes were not available (again a combined meeting of AG COMM & KCG); Virginia Keith made a motion to table the adoption of these minutes to January 10, 2018; Byron Martin seconded; discussion; vote 4 to 0; minutes tabled to 01/10/2018.

Upon the arrival of Carrie from KCG Byron Martin made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Carrie to speak with regard to the KCG; Chris Shaw seconded said motion; discussion; vote 4 to 0; the rules were

suspended to allow Carrie to speak. Frank then asked Carrie if she would like to join the commission at the table.

VI. General Business – review / discussion / action

A) 2017 Event Planning – Activities, ETC.

1) Classes

Byron Martin will do a bee class in January; January 20th to be the class date with a snow date of January 27th; time 1:00 pm; this will be an introduction into bee keeping – use the same advertisement as last year. Ann-Marie to review what dates the ad needs to appear.

2) Other Events

Nothing was discussed.

B) Open Space Land Acquisition Committee / Farmland Inventory

Nothing

C) Mother Nature's Garden – meeting / progress report

Still working on fundraising for the Veterans' Garden; looking to see if they can get a major sponsor for the next (second phase) of the project; decorated a Christmas Tree for Display at the Rec Center; funds raised through their night at Club 99 was approximately \$66.00 for the night.

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

1) Discussion of AG COMM – KCG work relationship – Budget/Garden Coordinator

Frank started the discussion regarding the volunteer/garden coordinator. Carrie said KCG is appreciative of the AG COMM proposing such a position. Frank stated that it must be made clear to all candidates that the position is a stipend position; from March/April 2018 to November 2018; we must come up with a subcommittee (2 people from KCG; 2 people from AG COMM; and town staff) to determine the exact job description. The stipend would be \$599.00 and just what would we expect the coordinator to actually do for that sum of money? Must really define the job expectations; and in January / February we need to start advertising if we move forward with the position.

Byron Martin made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$599.00 for a volunteer/garden coordinator for the KCG; with the stipulation that Town Manager must approve the position prior to the expenditure. Virginia Keith seconded the motion; discussion; vote 4 to 0; the motion passed.

Frank asked Chris Shaw if she was willing to manage the volunteer/garden coordinator; as she had offered to do so in the past. Requested that Chris be the point person for the coordinator to go to; and Chris agreed.

2) Update on status of garden

Frank asked Carrie to give a review of the garden, discussion ensued.

3) Review of November 1, 2017 & December 6, 2017 meetings

There was a discussion regarding various aspects of the November 1 and December 6 workshop meetings between the KCG and the AG COMM.

E) Tomato Festival – meeting / progress report

The date of the 2018 Tomato Festival is Saturday, September 8, 2018. The first meeting regarding the Tomato Festival is January 23, 2018 @ 5:00 in the P&D Office. There was a discussion regarding the Food Awareness and Safety Training (FAST) offered by NDDH; the non-profit class should be Thursday, March 1, 2018; Frank will sign up for the class and suggested a town hall staff member should do so as well; Ann-Marie will check into this. Byron Martin made a motion to spend \$60.00 from the AG COMM budget to pay for two people to attend the FAST Course at NDDH; Chris Shaw seconded; discussion; vote 4 to 0; motion passed.

F) Green News Newsletter – meeting / progress report

Chris said she wants to get a Holiday Edition of the Green News Letter out by Wednesday, 12/20/2017. Discussion ensued regarding possible subjects; bulb planting at KCG; the January class on bees; MNG member decorating their tree at the Rec Center, etc.

VII. Regulations – review / revisions / discussion / action

A) Town of Killingly Zoning Regulations Section 585 “Agriculture” – review / discussion / action.
Reviewed the regulations (12.AG.COMM.Dec.18{13}.2017.AG.Zoning.Reg.s.draft) and the following items need to be corrected.

- 1) Page 1 – Letter b) replace “There” with “These”;
- 2) Page 3 – Number 4) insert “the” between “be” and “responsible”;
- 3) Page 6 – Letter a) replace “Plan” with “Plant”;
- 4) Page 11 – Number d) 1) reword “Medium Density Zones and Village Commercial”;
- 5) Page 11 – Number d) 1) insert “on” between “only” and “the same”;
- 6) Page 11 – Number 4) remove the second “meet the demand of”;
- 7) Page 12 – Number 5) replace the second “sold” with “also offered for sale”;
- 8) Page 14 – Number 1) replace “to” with “with”;
- 9) Page 15 – Number i) 1) capitalize “Rural” and “Medium”;
- 10) Page 16 – Letter j) replace “Future Farmers of America” with “National FFA Organization”;
- 11) Page 18 – Research the state’s definition of Large-scale poultry/fowl farms;

VIII. Other Discussion Items – review / discussion / action

The FAST course through the NDDH was discussed under the Tomato Festival.

IX. Next Meeting - Regular Meeting – January 10, 2017

X. Adjournment

Byron Martin made a motion to adjourn; Virginia Keith seconded; vote 4 to 0; the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.