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*Elizabeth M. Wilson*



**Killingly Agriculture Commission**  
**WEDNESDAY, September 12, 2018**

Regular Meeting

7:00 pm

Killingly Town Hall

172 Main Street, Killingly, CT

ROOM 102

**MEETING MINUTES**

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call**  
Frank Anastasio, Byron Martin, Virginia Keith, Adam Hunt  
Also attending: Ann-Marie Aubrey, Director of Planning & Development; Absent Adam Griffiths, Town Council Liaison – had a conflict.
- 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
- V. **Adoption of Minutes – review / discussion / action**  
A) Regular Meeting of August 8, 2018 – Byron Martin made a motion to adopt the minutes (as corrected); Virginia Keith seconded the motion; no further discussion, vote 4 to 0, motion passes.  
Correction to be made: The people presenting the pollinator class with Virginia were the CT Ag Exp. Station and NRCS, not UCONN.
- VI. **General Business – review / discussion / action**  
A) **2018 Event Planning – Activities, ETC.**
  - 1) Classes – Nothing new to report at this time.
  - 2) Other Events – Virginia reported that the Farmers' Market was looking for a winter location. There were some suggestions made, and Virginia said she would keep the commission informed once a location is chosen and obtained.
    - Killingly Grange is having an Agricultural Fair on Saturday, Sept 22, 2018 & Sunday, Sept 23, 2018
    - Woodstock Fair Grounds is Celebrating Agriculture on Saturday, Sept 22, 2018
  - 3) Possible "Tour Des Farms" – Nothing new to report at this time.  
B) **Open Space Land Acquisition Committee / Farmland Inventory** – meeting / progress report  
Nothing new  
  
C) **Mother Nature's Garden** – meeting / progress report  
Frank suggested that Virginia Chase of MNG look into "Rainflow Irrigation" regarding the water pump MNG wants to put near Linda Walden's Memorial Garden. Rainflow Irrigation is based out of the PA, and they are very thorough in determining what kind of pump you need – height over rise, etc. – special filters, etc.

AT THE TIME OF THIS POSTING – THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES – AND HAVE NOT BEEN ADOPTED.

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

Commission discussed the issue they recently had regarding bee hives in the garden. Frank made a suggestion of using “peppermint oil” and hot water if the gardeners wanted to make sure they were staying totally organic.

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

Tomato Festival went very well this year. The weather was good, most of the vendors were happy with how their day went. The Chili contest was a big hit again this year, United Services was the winner. The Farmers’ Market vendors did really well this year, the tomato tasting may have helped somewhat.

**F) Green News Newsletter – meeting / progress report**

Frank did not have time to get a newsletter out before the Tomato Festival; he will work on getting a newsletter out by the middle of October. Adam will work on the newsletter with Frank, and then eventually Adam will take the newsletter over from Frank.

**VII. Regulations – review / revisions / discussion / action**

**A) Town of Killingly Zoning Regulations Section 585 “Agriculture”**

**B) Borough of Danielson Zoning Regulations Section 585 “Agriculture”**

The Commission members reviewed the various comments, suggestions put forth by the CT DoAG; however, the members did not follow all of the suggestions as they felt the suggestions did not apply to Killingly’s particular circumstances. The Commission asked Ann-Marie to go through the regulations one more time, and get them ready for a workshop with the PZC in October.

**VIII. Plan of Conservation and Development – review/discussion/action**

**A) Update from Frank – re: meeting with Planning & Zoning**

Frank attended the PZC meeting last month and gave them the 3 or 4 suggestions that the Commission had developed at their last meeting. Frank explained that the PZC requested a list of trees that they felt would be suitable for planting in various developments. Byron Martin said he would develop such a list and would forward it to Ann-Marie so she could give it to the PZC. Byron stressed the importance of the pollinator habitat, and native plants and the members all seemed to be in agreement. He suggested that at least 20% of all landscaping should be dedicated to pollinator habitat.

Frank then started a discussion about a processing facility for the NE corner of CT. He stated that NECCOG had done such a study in years prior – however, the question was raised regarding the cost of just such a project. What group would be able to pay for such a project? Everyone suggested looking into the Steak-Ums processing plant. Another suggestion was a “Travelling Processor” – is that a possibility?

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

As Adam was absent, there was no report.

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

Nothing else was discussed.

**XI. Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – OCTOBER 10, 2018 – review/discussion/action**

**XII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm.