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**Killingly Agriculture Commission**  
**WEDNESDAY – November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Regular Meeting

7:00 pm

Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main Street, Killingly, CT

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

**AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call**  
Frank Anastasio, Byron Martin, Virginia Keith, Adam Hunt  
Also attending, Ann-Marie L. Aubrey, Dir. Planning & Development  
Absent with notice Adam Griffiths (home sick)
- II. **Agenda Addendum**
- 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]  
None
- IV. **Adoption of Minutes – review / discussion / action**  
A) Regular Meeting of October 10, 2018 – No quorum – no votes  
B) Regular Meeting of September 12, 2018 – Byron Martin motion to adopt, Virginia Keith seconded the motion, not further discussion, vote 4/0, minutes were adopted.
- V. **CT Department of Agriculture – 2018 Farm Viability Grant Guidance Document – review / discussion / action**  
Virginia Keith stated the NE Farmers' Market Association was submitting a grant proposal to help to relocate the Spring Summer and Fall Farmers' Market to Davis Park. She met with Paul Hopkins, Acting Town Manager and was supportive of the idea, this would give the public a reason to go Davis Park and not just drive by. Virginia asked if it would be possible to get letters of support for the proposal from the Agriculture Commission and the Town Manager's Office. Frank asked Ann-Marie to please write the letter for the Ag Comm and he would come into town hall and sign it. Ann-Marie said she would also write the letter for the Town Manager and send it to him for signature. Virginia stated the grant proposal was due into the State on or before November 20, 2018.
- VI. **Real Estate Parcels Classified under Section 490 – review / discussion / action**  
Ann-Marie presented a map to the commission members that showed all the real estate under Section 490 (a tax ID for farmland and forest parcels). Farm was 610 – and shown in light green; Forest was 620 – and shown in dark green. There was discussion to send letters to both "farm land and forest land" owners to determine which parcels were actively farmed, or managed forest. The commission would like to create a survey of questions to ask to see if the commission could determine what people wanted or needed from the Ag Comm. Discussion to continue at the next meeting in December, hope to get the letter and survey completed and sent out by the end of January, 2019.
- VII. **Regulations – review / revisions / discussion / action**  
Motion was made by Byron Martin to open the floor for discussion and to allow Paul Archer, LS, to take part in the conversation; Virginia Keith seconded the motion; no further discussion; vote 4/0; motion passed.

A) Proposed Regulations for "Adaptive Re-Use of an Agricultural Building"

Ann-Marie did an introductory explanation of the proposed regulations for the adaptive re-use of an agricultural building. Paul Archer introduced himself to the commission and he discussed the reason behind bringing the proposal to the Ag Comm. Stated that the regulations before the Commission were actually a copy of the regulations the Town of Brooklyn has in place, and they have been very useful and successful for the Brooklyn Community. Frank and Byron explained that the Ag Comm was formed to actually support and assist agriculture to grow in Killingly, they did not think that "preservation and reuse of agricultural buildings" was actually something they should put within the Agricultural Section of the Zoning Regulations. Though the group supported the concept, the group was honest in stating they would like to see all agricultural buildings used for agriculture. Ann-Marie and Paul explained that before they brought the concept before the PZC they wanted the Ag Comm to review them, because they knew they would be asked by the PZC if the Ag Comm knew about and supported the proposed regulations.

Frank explained that though they supported the regulations, the proposed regulations regarding the buildings does not fit within the Agricultural Section of the Zoning Regulations; however, that does not mean that it could not go into another section of the Zoning Regulations.

Frank offered a letter of support, when the time called for it, to be written to the PZC to let them know the proposed regulations were presented to the Ag Comm, that the members did review them, and feel they belong in their own section of the zoning regulations.

B) Town of Killingly Zoning Regulations Section 585 "Agriculture"

C) Borough of Danielson Zoning Regulations Section 585 "Agriculture"

B & C were discussed together – there were no further changes (at this time) to the proposed regulations. The Commission Members were told that a special meeting/workshop between the PZC and Ag Comm members was scheduled to take place on Monday, November 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Town Meeting Room, Second Floor, of the Killingly Town Hall. Some members of the Ag Comm should be at that meeting. Ann-Marie stated she would post a special agenda just in case a quorum of the members showed up at the PZC meeting.

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

A) Update – a public meeting (charrette) has been scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2019 at 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. It will be at the Killingly Public High School Cafeteria. Please spread the word and make – the more people we have, the more input we have, the better the plan will be.

**IX. Review Killingly Agriculture Commission and Right to Farm Ordinance – review/discussion/action**

Nothing was done with this agenda item.

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

**A) Classes**

Byron Martin is will to do his introductory class to bee keeping sometime in late January early February. He said he would check his calendar and get back to Ann-Marie with the dates so the advertisements could be put in the Turnpike Buyer. This is always a well-attended class.

**B) Tour Des Farms**

Ann-Marie said after the first of the year she will contact the Jeanne Davis (?) as she is the person that put together the Tour Des Farms in the western area of CT. Hopefully, she will be able to give us some inside tips on how to get such a tour "off the ground" so to say.

**C) Other Events**

(\*) Virginia reported that the Farmers' Market at Westfield has 14 vendors scheduled for the farmers' market.

(\*) Frank reported that he has completed his video/film regarding agriculture within Killingly. He is planning on three presentations 1) For the people within the film itself; 2) At least two other presentations to the general public; and 3) Hopefully, to have a showing at the public schools. Right now he is looking at various locations for his first showing.

(\*) Ann-Marie mentioned there will be tree decorating at the Rec Center November 29, 2018.

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

Byron, nothing to report, the next meeting is scheduled for January.

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

Ann-Marie, the second rain garden was completed (the day before our snow storm) at the pedestrian bridge right behind Deary's Gym. This time the KHS Vo-Ag students helped ECCD with the planting; and of course the DPW dug the site the day before.

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

Ann-Marie, the KCG has closed the garden for the year, and has completed the clean-up of the garden.

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

Nothing new to report at this time

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

Nothing new to report at this time

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

No liaison was present at the meeting

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

Nothing new to report

**XIII. Next Meeting** – Regular Meeting – JANUARY 9, 2018 – review/discussion/action

**XIV. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.