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Elizabeth M. Wilson



Killingly Agriculture Commission

WEDNESDAY, MAY 09, 2018

Regular Meeting

7:00 pm

Killingly Town Hall

172 Main Street, Killingly, CT

ROOM 102

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call** - 7:00 PM. Frank Anastasio, Byron Martin, Adam Hunt, Virginia Keith present. Absent with notice: Chris Shaw. Others present: Eric Rumsey, staff liaison; Chris Dillon, Town Council liaison.
- 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 present.
- V. **Adoption of Minutes – review / discussion / action**
A) Regular Meeting of April 11, 2018 – Virginia motion to approve as written, Byron second, all approved.
- VI. **General Business – review / discussion /action**
A) **2018 Event Planning – Activities, ETC.**
 - 1) **Classes** – Frank held a class on vegetable gardening and had 22 people attend the class. Frank suggested that if a class is held at the library; ask the total seating for the space, not the number of chairs in the room. The class went very well and people learned much. Many people took soil tests and would have their soil tested. Virginia will hold a raising poultry class June 16th at 2:00 PM. 12 people will be able to attend this class. There will be a \$10 charge.
 - 2) **Other Events** – Logee's Greenhouse will hold their annual summer solstice festival June 16th at 9 AM. The farmers market is open Saturday's from 9:00 – 12:00 with 12-14 vendors. The grange is having a fundraiser featuring a roast pork dinner and a silent auction.
B) **Open Space Land Acquisition Committee / Farmland Inventory** – None.
C) **Mother Nature's Garden** – meeting / progress report – Work continues on the Veteran's Garden and the Linda Walden Memorial Garden.
D) **Killingly Community Garden** – meeting / review / discussion / action – Jonathan has picked up a 1300 gallon watering cistern as well as some IBC boxes. He and Eric have constructed a spigot. There are two valves that need to be replaced in the watering system. There are 8-9 gardeners this season. All the beds should be taken and utilized this year.
E) **Tomato Festival** – meeting / progress report – The committee will be meeting the fourth Tuesday of the month to continue on the planning for the festival.

F) **Green News Newsletter** – meeting / progress report – There are 120 subscribers at this time. Frank would like to send out an email to those who have signed up for previous classes asking them to subscribe to the newsletter. He will be speaking with Ann-Marie and Diane about doing so.

VII. Regulations – review / revisions / discussion / action

A) **Town of Killingly Zoning Regulations Section 585 “Agriculture”** – The commission discussed several edits to the proposed regulations specifically regarding distances for buildings housing livestock, and manure storage areas.

B) **Borough of Danielson Zoning Regulations Section 585 “Agriculture”** – Frank expressed concerns with page 9 number 4 “Storage of manure”. It was discussed and edits suggested as the borough properties often have limited frontage and width therefore making the majority of the borough properties ineligible to meet the requirement of 150’ from the property line. In the keeping of backyard chickens, the manure pile may be 20 feet from the property lines. The commission questioned where the 150’ came from; Eric stated that it was a carry-over from the town regulations and the current regulations. The commission believes that this section needs some work prior to going to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The same issue would apply to item #3 on page 9. There should be some language regarding existing structures being utilized for agricultural/livestock purposes not meeting the 150’ regulation.

VIII. Plan of Conservation and Development – review/discussion/action – Jonathan and Eric have created a survey that will be going live on Survey Monkey as well as physical copies that will be distributed to the recreation center, library, etc. Charettes were going to be held in June, but may be pushed until the fall.

IX. Other Discussion Items – review / discussion / action – Chris Dillon gave an update on Town Council items of interest as well as the budget meetings.

X. Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – June 6, 2018 – review/discussion/action

XI. Adjournment – 8:23 PM Motion by Byron, second by Virginia.