

Wolfeboro Agricultural Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
December 11, 2019  
7:00 PM  
Unapproved

**Members present:** Chairman Lawreen Strauch, Vice Chairman Sarah Silk, Bree Schuette, David Strauch, Wendy Rodgers, Marge Strunk, Blair Moody and Macy Gotthardt

**Members absent:** Selectmen's Representative Dave Senecal

**Alternates absent:** Alan Fredrickson and Matthew Plache

Chairman Strauch called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Chairman Strauch welcomed Kurt DeVyllder and Dave Rodgers to the meeting.

Kurt DeVyllder thanked everyone for the tree and plaque to honor his father. He stated it meant a lot to his family and Dennis would have been happy. He explained that he would be running the farm this coming year. He offered his support to the Ag Commission.

Vice Chairman Silk questioned if he would like to be an alternate member.

He stated he would think about it.

Dave Rodgers expressed his interest in becoming an alternate member. He explained he has been a farmer for 35 years and has a lot of experience and knowledge to bring to the Commission. He has been a member of the Sandwich Fair (Rabbits/Poultry) for many years.

➤ **Annual Report**

Vice Chairman Silk read the annual report she had written. (See attached sheet) She stated the Town Manager requested it to be one page with no pictures. She asked the Commission for any changes.

**It was moved by Marge Strunk and seconded by Blair Moody to approve submitting the annual report for the Ag Commission. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.**

➤ **Correspondence**

Vice Chairman Silk read a letter from Karen DeVyllder thanking the Ag Commission.

➤ **Reappointments**

Vice Chairman Silk stated there are a few terms expiring in 2020, Lawreen Strauch, Sarah Silk, Alan Fredrickson and Bree Schuette. There will be a notice in the newspaper in March. People must express their interest in writing to the Town Manager's office. Appointments will be in the beginning

of April. As a reminder if someone is reappointed they need to be sworn in by Pat Waterman, Town Clerk.

➤ **New Business**

Vice Chairman Silk stated Susan Fuller was interested in having the Ag Commission participate in a 50<sup>th</sup> Earth Day celebration but Ms. Silk was having a hard time getting in contact with her. Ms. Silk thought maybe they could work together on a project or do something for the Fourth of July parade. Ms. Silk questioned if they could get a budget from the Board of Selectmen.

Ms. Chamberlain stated budgets are almost completed and the deadline has passed.

Ms. Schuette offered to give Ms. Silk her contact information.

Ms. Silk stated there are 14 Ag Commissions in the State of New Hampshire.

Chairman Strauch talked to the Tuftonboro Ag Commission. They discussed working on a project together or discuss what other Ag Commissions do.

Ms. Silk stated Ms. Collins stated another group has expressed an interest in using the Community Center so we need to decide our meeting times for next year. We have first choice for the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the months but need to let her know. She suggested March, May, June and December.

Chairman Strauch stated we could notify people by email if we need to change meeting times.

Ms. Silk stated we need to let Ms. Chamberlain know early enough. The meeting needs to be posted 24 hours in advance.

Ms. Chamberlain stated Mr. Senecal wanted her to remind everyone that meetings need to be scheduled. There have been a lot of cancellations. He wanted to remind everyone that the meetings need to take place on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. This is the regular scheduled time. This is so people can make plans to be here. If a meeting should be cancelled then it should be postponed until the next month instead of changing the week.

Ms. Silk stated that is not his choice.

Ms. Chamberlain stated Mr. Senecal is a member of the Board of Selectmen.

Ms. Rodgers stated she has been very frustrated with the meetings being changed or cancelled. She has cancelled plans to attend meetings and then they have been cancelled. She has missed classes and work. She needs a two week notice for time off from work. She read the list of meetings that were cancelled or changed. She has inconvenienced her co-workers to attend meetings. We need a schedule so everyone can attend the meetings. She is not the only person who is upset about this. Our attendance has been low which probably has to do with meetings being switched.

Ms. Silk stated last week we had to cancel because Lawreen and she both had appointments. Ms. Silk stated she had a Hazardous Waste meeting in Alton.

Ms. Rodgers stated we have switched 6 meetings this year. She has been on the committee since it started and tries to attend all meetings even when things have come up in her personal life. She would like to try for a schedule.

Chairman Strauch stated we should start with the dates we mentioned.

Ms. Silk stated March 5<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup>, June 4<sup>th</sup>, and December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If we meet with another Ag Commission they might not be able to come during one of these predetermined dates.

Ms. Chamberlain suggested a two week notice for an emergency meeting.

Ms. Silk stated she is not concerned about Mr. Senecal.

Ms. Schuette suggested using conference calling.

Ms. Silk stated there are special requirements by law.

Ms. Chamberlain stated Mr. Bowers has called in for a Board of Selectmen meeting and they just had to announce that during the beginning of the meeting.

Ms. Schuette stated yes.

Ms. Rodgers stated if she is at work she would not be able to call in.

Ms. Gotthardt questioned if they meet with a different Ag Commission if the meeting dates would be changed or if a meeting would be added.

Ms. Silk stated it would probably be an additional meeting. It would need to be done at least a month in advance.

Ms. Rodgers suggested a meeting later in the month so there would be more to talk about what each Ag Commission has done for the year.

Chairman Strauch stated it would be a sharing.

Ms. Schuette questioned what the goal is for meeting with the other Ag Commissions. (sharing of information or planning an event together.

Ms. Silk stated we started inventory farms in the area before and we did some projects such as the movie "Forgotten Farms". It would be good to educate the community and nice to see what other towns do.

Chairman Strauch stated NH Farm Bureau tried giving scholarships for agriculture but no one applied. This is very sad.

Mr. Strauch questioned the date of Earth Day for 2020 to know the timeframe for planning something.

Ms. Schuette stated April 22, 2020.

➤ Old Business – Minutes

It was moved by Vice Chairman Silk and seconded by Blair Moody to accept the minutes of June 13, 2019 as amended. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Silk and seconded by Dave Strauch to accept the minutes of August 15, 2019 as amended. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

➤ Adjournment

It was moved by Dave Strauch and seconded by Marge Stunk to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

**Michele Chamberlain,**  
Recording Secretary

WOLFEBORO AGRICULTURE COMMISSION  
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Wolfeboro Agriculture Commission once again held an Open Farm Day August 4<sup>th</sup>. Members: No View Farms-Lawreen and David Strauch; Top of the Hill Farm-Alan Fredrickson; former members: Bly Farm-Cynthia and Vinnie Blandini; and non-members: Bog Iron Farm-Barbara Dalpe; and Full Moon Farm-Jen French welcomed families to view local farms providing local food.

No View Farm represented the Ag Comm in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy in their division.

Alan Fredrickson was called upon again this November to transport the annual town Christmas tree for the festive lighting Thanksgiving weekend.

The Ag Commission commemorated founding member, Dennis DeVyder, (also a Carroll County Farm Bureau member) for his generosity to his community and years of support of agriculture. Funding was provided by donations from Ag members and Wolfeboro Parks & Recreation for an apple tree. The apple tree was planted by Marge Strunk and David Strauch at the Clark Museum Complex near the Farmer's Market. David also set the granite plaque provided by the Farm Bureau for the October ceremony attended by members of both organizations, DeVyder family members and the signature 1953 Mack truck driven by Kurt DeVyder.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawreen Strauch, Chairman 2020  
Sarah M Silk, Vice-Chair 2020  
Marge Strunk 2022  
Blair Moody 2022  
David Strauch 2021  
Wendy Rodgers 2021

Macy Gotthardt 2021  
Alan Fredrickson, alternate 2020  
Bree Schuette, alternate 2020  
Matthew Plache, alternate 2021  
  
David Senecal, BOS liaison