

Wolfeboro Agricultural Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2017
7:00 PM
Unapproved

Members present: Chairman Lawreen Strauch, Vice Chairman Sarah Silk, David Strauch, Marge Strunk, Charles Horsken, and Wendy Rodgers

Alternates present: Blair Moody and Bree Schuette

Alternates absent: Karen DeVyllder and Alan Frederickson

Members absent: Dennis DeVyllder, and Selectmen's Representative Dave Senecal

Chairman Strauch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Public Input

Sarah Silk stated Suzanne Fossum is here tonight. She would like advice about who could put lime and fertilizer on her fields.

Charles Horsken stated he had received an email from Mr. Fossum. He stated he did some research and there is no one that does that locally. Most of the farmers around here are very small and the big truck companies like to do 20 to 30 acres at a time. He suggested contacting Alan Frederickson.

Dave Strauch stated a lime truck would come and do 5 acres. He asked Ms. Fossum how many acres she wanted done.

Ms. Fossum stated 10 – 12 acres.

Sarah Silk suggested contacting the Farm Bureau or Extension Services.

Ms. Fossum stated they had their fields tested so they know what is needed but they need someone to hire to do the work.

The Board discussed and suggested calling Alan Frederickson.

Dave Strauch suggested checking into Wood Ash.

Charles Horsken stated it was a substitute for lime.

Wendy Rodgers stated she would check with her husband and call Ms. Fossum if he had any other suggestions.

Consideration of Minutes

➤ August 3, 2017 (Regular Meeting)

It was moved by Chairman Strauch and seconded by Sarah Silk to accept the minutes of August 3, 2017 as amended. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Commission Business

➤ Report on “Forgotten Farms” Account

A. Balance

Sarah Silk handed out the Agricultural Commission Account balance sheet from Pete Chamberlin, Finance Director.

She stated the balance of \$294.09 needs to be spent.

B. Disposition of Remaining Funds

- i.** Book to donate to Wolfeboro Library “100 years of NH Farm Bureau”

Sarah Silk stated Chairman Strauch suggested purchasing a copy of “The 100 years of NH Farm Bureau and donating it to the Wolfeboro Public Library. Ms. Silk stated the cost is \$20.00.

- ii.** Sarah Gardner Documentary “Forgotten Farms”

There was a discussion about sending the balance of \$294.09 to Sarah Gardner.

Charles Horsken asked about having flags/banners made for the parade. Chairman Strauch stated we had flags made for the parade this year.

Bree Schuette stated she was not objecting to the money going to Sarah Gardner for the documentary but wanted the Commission to be aware that some people thought the money they donated should be used in the community. She suggested finding more local ways to keep the money in the Community in the future.

The Commission agreed.

Chairman Strauch stated we would purchase the book for \$20.00 and then send the balance of \$274.09 to Sarah Gardner “Forgotten Farms” Documentary so they could continue showing the movie to more people.

It was moved by Charles Horsken and seconded by Sarah Silk to send the balance of \$274.04 to Sarah Gardner “Forgotten Farms” Documentary to promote the movie and the book (100 Years of NH Farm Bureau) which costs \$20.00 to the Wolfeboro Library. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

➤ **US Secretary of Agricultural “Listening Session”**

Chairman Strauch stated the United States Secretary of Agriculture came to New Hampshire and made three stops (Dover, Concord at a Lettuce Farm) and Wolfeboro. Chairman Strauch stated the discussion was about rural life.

The Commission discussed how disappointed they were with this presentation since farming was not discussed at all.

Chairman Strauch was interviewed by Channel 9 and she told them how disappointed she was with the presentation.

➤ **Farm Bureau Update**

A. September Farm Tour and Pot Luck Harvest Dinner at No-View Farm

Chairman Strauch stated she hosted the September Farm Tour and Pot Luck Dinner at her farm. They served turkey and 47 people attended. Officer Michael Strauch was a guest speaker. Officer Strauch gave a speech about his police dog. His dog searches for drugs.

B. October 18, 2017 Carroll County Annual Meeting at Tumbledown Farm in Brookfield at 6:00 PM

Chairman Strauch stated the Carroll County Annual Meeting will be on October 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Tumbledown Farm. The tickets cost \$20.00 and everyone is invited. Dinner will be served and Alan Eaton from UNH Cooperative Extension will be the guest speaker. He will be talking about ticks and how to protect yourself from lime disease.

Other Business

Sarah Silk stated the next meeting will be December 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

Bree Schuette stated yesterday she was at the groundbreaking ceremony for Families in Transition. Construction will start in the beginning of December. There will be seven suites and they will share a common area with a kitchen and living room. They were

asking for Community support so Ms. Schuette suggested maybe the Ag Commission could help them.

The Commission discussed that there is no support for homeless people in Wolfeboro.

Ms. Schuette stated the Library is looking for volunteers to read during Story Hour. She suggested the Ag Commission could raise awareness of farming if they had a farmer read a book about farming during Story Hour.

Sarah Silk stated the Farm Bureau promotes Agriculture in the classroom in March. A volunteer goes into the classroom and reads a book about farming and then the book is donated to the classroom.

Chairman Strauch stated she did that at Ossipee Central School and Karen DeVyllder did that in her classroom in Wolfeboro at Carpenter School.

Ms. Schuette stated she would talk to the library and let the Commission know the results at their next meeting.

It was moved by Dave Strauch and seconded by Sarah Silk to adjourn at 7:49 PM. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Chamberlain

Recording Secretary