

## WOLFEBORO AGRICULTURE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sarah M Silk, Chair; Lawreen Strauch, Vice-Chair; Dave Strauch, Marge Strunk, Katy Peternel, Wendy Rodgers, David Rodgers

**ALTERNATES ABSENT:** Kurt DeVlyder (excused), Macy Gotthard (unexcused)

**BOS LIAISON:** Dave Senecal - absent

### I. Approve Minutes 3-3-22

Chair, Sarah Silk, opened the meeting at 6:45 PM at the Library.

With a motion from Lawreen Strauch, Vice-Chair, and a second from Marge Strunk, the 3-3-22 Meeting Minutes were accepted as written

### II. Reorganization

Sarah asked for nominations for officers as this was the reorganization meeting following appointments by the BOS for the Ag Comm.

Marge Strunk made a motion to continue with the same slate of officers. Katy Peternel made a second. Sarah asked if there were any other nominations. There being none, the members voted in favor with Wendy Rodgers opposed.

### III. Carroll County Conservation District Representative Update-Catherine Dufault

Catherine Default was not in attendance. Lawreen Strauch advised she had talked to a large animal vet last week. Biosecurity is a big concern. People with birds should be especially cautious. The vet believes that the avian flu should slow down as the temperature rises.

Dave Strauch noted the seacoast marshes in ME have had migratory birds which are problematic spreading the avian flu. Katy had heard 200 ME chickens had contracted the disease.

Lawreen reported the vet said the disease gets into the soil. Dave S commented that euthanized birds have to be burned rather than buried.

Sarah advised the Barn Program Update would be at the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting as Maggie Stier had a conflicting meeting in June. Maggie was eager to speak with members of the Ag Comm regarding barn preservation.

In preparation for the July meeting, the appropriate package to read is the one referred to in the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Minutes. There may be questions you will want to ask regarding public benefit and historic value to qualify for the tax incentive. ([www.wolfeboronh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlf4071/f/uploads/79-dpacket2019.pdf](http://www.wolfeboronh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlf4071/f/uploads/79-dpacket2019.pdf))

### IV. Farmers Market Update:

Katy had notified Sarah that Megan was no longer involved with the Farmers Market. Market Manager, Nadine San Antonio offered to be the contact person, but was unavailable as opening day for the Market is May 5<sup>th</sup>.

She voiced the opinion that the greatest need right now was gaining the ability to have the signs for the new location at Brewster Field, South Wolfeboro corner, and on the bluff at the Nick to remain standing longer than 16 days to route shoppers to the new location.

Katy swung by today and said it was not crowded late afternoon, although there is usually an early rush. Sarah noted there are likely fewer fresh veggies as it is in the beginning of the growing season.

Katy also said they are looking for Board members, especially non-farmers.

There was a brief discussion about state law regarding agriculture off-site directional signage, private property signs, temporary event signs, etc.

Wendy suggested that it be known whether the Nick wanted long term signage on their property.

Dave Rodgers noted the Sandwich Fair signs go up 2 months in advance with some attached to town signs.

V. Old Business/Any Other Business:

Katy reported on 3 pieces of legislature:

- 1- unpasteurized milk <20 gal/day, can be made into 6oz ice cream and frozen yogurt servings for sale starting May 17<sup>th</sup>;
- 2- RSA 431 went to study relative to soil conditioners, fees to help farmers
- 3- Capital Improvement Grant – state and agricultural fairs, \$250,000 was determined to be inexpedient to legislate.

Lawreen said there is a Friday review from the Farm Bureau.

July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade: Kurt DeVylder, Dave and Lawreen, Alan Frederickson have participated on the past. No one knows what the theme will be. Some expressed a desire to get that information earlier.

July 7, 2022 Meeting and program: Sarah has arranged for Maggie Stier to address the tax break and other requirements for barns. She will check about the Codes Enforcement Officer addressing the Farmers Market sign locations and length of display.

Lawreen reported on Carroll County Farm Day as relayed to her from Amanda Bevard: date to be determined, probably August; suggestion that Farm Bureau and Ag Comm have a table.

There was a discussion about the Mt Washington Eaters and Growers listings and Granite State Dairy with the ice cream train brochures.

Sarah suggested she might discuss the updated Safe Sharps Disposal brochures just printed by LRHHPF and LRPC for the Farm Bureau. Large animals, pets, and people generate sharps needing safe disposal.

Katy noted the legislature ends in May and starts work again in September.

Sarah spoke with Librarian Joyce Davis to borrow a copy of the Farm Bureau book about barns for the next meeting.

VI. Adjourn:

The members were reminded that the next meeting will be July 7<sup>th</sup> with Maggie and perhaps the Codes Officer. There will be no meeting in June.

With a motion from Katy and a second from Marge, the members voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah M Silk, Acting Secretary

Ag5-22