

MARSHFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING
March 27, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM at Town Hall, Hearing Room 3.

Attending: Lorrie Dahlen, Ed Duane, Sarah Garretson Lowry, Norma Haskins, Carolyn Housman, Annie Massed

Absent: Carleton Chandler, Karen Vieira

Lorrie motioned to accept the minutes of 2/27/18 as amended. Norma seconded the motion. All eligible members present approved the minutes as amended.

Treasury Report

Balance \$5,134.85

Update on Community Garden/ Mounce's Meadow Farming

Annie will meet with Bill Grafton the Conservation Administrator regarding the community garden for 2018.

Annie is exploring organic mulches to use in the community gardens.

A composting workshop may be offered to the gardeners.

Annie is approaching several businesses for deer fencing donations.

The community gardeners will follow guidelines set by the Conservation Commission.

Lorrie developed a Power Point presentation documenting the process of selecting a potential farmer for the Mounce's Meadow property.

Legislation/Warrant article

Norma spoke to Narice Casper , Acting Town Clerk regarding the process of preparing a warrant article for town meeting. Chapter 40, Section 8L (the new section related to Agricultural Commissions) authorizes Ag. Coms. to acquire and manage farmland in the name of the town or city.

Narice outlined the process of getting 150 signatures, preparing the text of the warrant and submitting to the Board of Selectmen. Norma will inquire about the timeframe.

2018 Lectures Wrap up

There were about 180 attendees, about 40 registered by telephone.

The tea and coffee station worked out well in the hallway with a volunteer.

A volunteer is needed at the break to assist with clean up.

The food volume was about right at 700 pieces of food.

2018 Adopt-a-seedling

Carolyn picked up the grower supplies and will distribute them tonight.
Several tomato varieties for containers have been added to the list.

Website

Ed's name has been added to the Agricultural Commission website.
Members need to review and make suggestions.

Lorrie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM. Norma seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Garretson Lowry, Secretary

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 7:30 PM, in Hearing Room 3.