

## Agricultural Commission Minutes

Meeting of March 18, 2019

Meeting called to order in Hearing Room 2 at the Town Hall at 7:41PM.

Attending were Lorrie Dahlen, Carolyn Housman, Karen Vieira, Ed Duane and Norma Haskins

The minutes of the Meeting of February 14<sup>th</sup> were reviewed. After review and amending Lorrie made a motion, seconded by Ed to accept the minutes as amended. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Mounce's Meadows- Ed reports that the Conservation agent has set aside \$1,000 to help in construction of the new solar deer fencing. Lorrie explained that the Conservation Commission has to approve our plans before we can continue. We have to get three price quotes before the hearing. We talked about sending out a press release to encourage new gardeners for this year.

Lorrie met with Erica Rumbley, Michael Maresco and Conservation today. We need to get all right of way issues settled before we can continue with plans for the pump access road. We need to get power to the pump house and that will require a new pole which is estimated to be \$10,000.00. The line will have to pass over neighbor's land. The next step is to meet with neighbors.

Erica is doing a talk on garden planning at the fairground on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Adopt A Seedling- We discussed plans for the event. Double checked who is growing which seeds. Ed reports his sweet potato starts are going very well and he expects to have 50 for the event. We talked about pricing. Lorrie feels we should raise our fees to more closely match others who are also selling started plants in the spring. Some felt our present prices at a suggested donation of \$2 to \$4 is high enough. Others thought we should raise the suggested donation to \$3 as so much effort goes into growing them and they are all organic. Nearby farms' prices are higher than ours. Decision to be made at a later meeting. Carolyn distributed Popsicle sticks for marking each pot.

Working session on new projects- It was decided to put off serious work on the map project until after the Adopt a Seedling event in May.

Lorrie will advise the Board of Selectmen of the two slots open in our Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM. Next meeting will be April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norma Haskins, Secretary