

Marshfield Agricultural Commission Minutes

Meeting of August 26, 2019

Meeting called to order in the lunchroom at the Town Hall at 7:05PM. Attending were Lorrie Dahlen, Carolyn Housman, Ed Duane, Annie Massed, Karen Vieira and Norma Haskins.

The minutes of the meeting of April 15th were reviewed. After several corrections Lorrie made a motion, seconded by Carolyn to accept the minutes as amended. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

The minutes of the meeting of May 9th were reviewed. After several corrections Lorrie made a motion seconded by Ed to accept the minutes as amended. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Lorrie chose Carolyn as a second signer for bills to be paid as a backup if she is not available.

Lorrie announced that the Plymouth County Farm Bureau Annual meeting was tonight. Needless to say she could not attend.

Adopt a seedling recap. This year's program was a success. There was \$2410. in income with \$300. in expenses making a \$2110.00 profit to be added to our account for our programs.

Lorrie has signed the bills for the deer fencing for \$312.00. Lorrie commented that she was at the community garden today and there was some damage to the gate but she has repaired it. She mentioned that the mulching put down around the deer fence has served its purpose and kept the weeds at bay and the gardens look good. One gardener left this year and gave his plot to someone else and a new gardener has already cleared her lot. She may be a candidate for a spot on our Commission. Annie reports she has obtained a transfer station sticker to dispose of trash that accumulates at the garden.

CPC request- Lorries feels we should include in our request funding for new solar electric fencing for deer control, funds to improve and expand parking access including grading where necessary, and funds for a wetlands delineation plan. Rules have changed and the Community Garden now qualifies for consideration for CPC funds. Annie suggested we add funds for a small tractor mower as the area that needs mowing is too large for a push around mower. Ed asked if the new access road to the pump could be included. Lorrie is working with a farmer to help foster compatibility with neighbors.

It is hoped that by expanding the parking issue will get us closer to the pump area. Annie is to get some price estimates for the fencing. Ed will work on getting price estimates for the parking area work for 12-15 cars. Lorrie to get price for the wetlands delineation plan and Norma to measure up the garden at Coast Guard Hill to be included in the CPC request. Lorrie will price

the organic soil to fill the planned raised beds. We spent some time figuring out the quantity of soil needed for the beds along with some for the community garden too.

Adopt an Island- Karen reports she would like a budget of \$200.00 for next year. Lorrie made a motion, seconded by Annie to assign a budget of \$200.00 for the Adopt an Island for next year. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Lecture Series- With everyone busy preparing for our CPC request which has to be in by the end of September it was decided to not have the lectures this year. Carolyn pointed out that other groups are doing lectures on gardening including the Master Gardeners of Cape Cod.

Right to Farm Lawn Signs- Lorrie reports a large response for the public for requests to have a sign. She would like to order 25 signs which will cost approximately \$350.00. Norma made a motion, seconded by Carolyn, to set aside \$350.00 to cover the cost of these signs. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Survey discussion- This was tabled for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Next meeting will be Sept 16th. Next meeting October 21st.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins, Secretary