

Marshfield Agricultural Commission Minutes

Meeting of October 23, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:15PM in the lunch room at the Town Hall. Attending were Lorrie Dahlen, Carolyn Housman, Ed Duane, Karen Vieira, and Norma Haskins, Also attending were three observers from the senior class at the high school.

Minutes- The minutes of the meeting of September 16th were reviewed. After several amendments were made Lorrie made a motion, seconded by Ed to accept the minutes as amended. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Right to Farm signs- Lorrie asked that anyone who is interested in a sign please let her know as they will be ready soon.

Mounce's Meadow- Lorrie reports that we waiting for approval from the Selectmen, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission of the farmers plans for the lease of Mounce's Meadow to proceed. There was a brief discussion of the plans and what they will entail. Ed reports that there is still some work left to be done at the Community Garden to prepare for winter. Lorrie suggested hay bales around the area of the deer fence to keep the weeds down.

Action item- Lorrie is to speak with Selectmen Rohland regarding the farmer's plans for Mounce's Meadow.

CPC Proposal- Lorrie has prepared a power point presentation for the CPC proposal. It will include a request for \$40,000.00 which will cover the proposed restoration of the gardens at Coast Guard Hill, the new deer fence, improved parking area, 65 yards of compost and a new welcoming sign for the Community Garden. It was estimated at \$41,180.00.

Bridle Trail- The meeting of the Trails Committee is tomorrow night and Lorrie plans to attend. They will be discussing plans to make the trail more accessible for bicycle riders and others to use the trail. Lorrie is concerned that their plans may make it impossible for horseback riders to use the trail. There was a brief discussion regarding the type of suitable or unsuitable surfaces for horses in this proposal. After our discussion Karen made a motion, seconded by Carolyn, to send a letter of concern to the Trails Committee. It was voted and passed, Lorrie abstaining. Norma to prepare the letter and send it to members.

Survey discussion- Lorrie has completed the survey and mentioned that Carleton Chandler has already filled it out and returned it. He was a little concerned about some parts but was assured by Lorrie that none of his personal information would be shared. Karen has drafted an introductory letter to accompany the survey.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the use of the survey and what information will or will not be shared. Lorrie said these surveys will be sent to all persons having barn inspections and all

owners of property classified as 61A or 61B in the Assessors Department. Norma will get the list from the Assessor's Office and prepare the mailing. The printing will be done at the office supply store and Norma will prepare the envelopes. Lorrie made a motion, seconded by Karen to set aside \$300.00 for costs associated with the survey such as envelopes, labels and printing costs. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Town Warrant- Town Meeting is coming up but there are no articles in this Town Meeting that would warrant input from the Agricultural Commission.

We have a possible new member coming in who is Kristen Webb.

Carolyn asked about the spring lecture event and Lorrie suggested we discuss it at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22PM.

Next Meeting November 12th at 7:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins, Secretary