

Marshfield Agricultural Commission Minutes

Meeting of December 9, 2020

Meeting called to order via ZOOM at 7:15PM. Attending were Karen Vieira, Kristen Webb, Carolyn Housman, Annie Massed, Lorrie Dahlen and Norma Haskins. Also attending was Nancy Bowers from the Recreation Commission.

The minutes of the meeting of September 9th were reviewed. Carolyn offered an amendment. After the amendment Annie made a motion, seconded by Kristen to accept the minutes as amended. It was voted and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

CPC Project- Community Garden at Mounces Meadow. Lorrie reports that a lot of the compost has been placed and the garden looks great. The chips are down and the mulch has been added. A discussion ensued regarding the barrier shrubs to be put in next summer. Annie offered a choice which she felt would attract pollinators and be good for the habitat and the environment. Several others voiced their opinions. That discussion was to be continued in the spring when it was closer to being done. In the spring we will be addressing the parking area, the new shed and fencing. The wetland delineation should be done by then. Annie reports that Ron Simon has offered his services to assist with a trench from the well head to the gardens which will be used to bury a water line. Lorrie read to us parts of the proposals from three different vendors who have bid for the Wetlands delineation plan to be done. Prices for this work run from pro-bono to \$1900.00. Lorrie would like to review these proposals with the Conservation Commission to see what we actually need to see in this report and assess whether we can go with a less costly option. After her report Norma made a motion, seconded by Annie to allow Lorrie to make that decision and hire whichever one she chooses as these proposals are only good for a short time. It was voted and passed, unanimously, by a roll call vote.

Coast Guard Hill Gardens- Lorrie reports she has found some options on line to purchase these raised beds in kits that are all ready to install, cut to order. Prices range from \$120.00 to \$190.00 each for 4' by 8' by 11" deep. Lorrie asked us to consider these as it would but much less physical work for us. Motion made and seconded to purchase the kits for the gardens. Motion voted and passed by a roll call vote. We asked MS Bowers who farms at that site in the present plots if there had been any problems at the site that we should be aware of. She advised that there was a significant problem with deer. We suggested a netting to raise above the present rail fence that is already there. Lorrie thought we might have funds available to provide deer fence and possible small animal fence as well.

Map project- Lorrie reports that the final version which Norma and Kristen worked on came out just beautiful. She asked Kristen if she would contact the IT man and get it added to our website.

Adopt a seedling event- We discussed the annual spring program. Lorrie reported that considering the Covid 19 restrictions we dealt with the 2020 event went very well. She asked if we thought we could do it again and we all agreed. More discussion at the next meeting.

Next meeting planned for January 13th.

Lorrie made a motion, seconded by Annie to adjourn at 8:26PM. It was voted and passed, unanimously, by a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins, Secretary