



Plainfield Agriculture Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 27, 2022

7:00 pm

Location: Plainfield Town Hall Community Room

Time: Chairperson Jennie Kapszukiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Members Present: Vernon Gray, Jr., Jennie Kapszukiewicz, Jo-Ann Desrochers,
Sherry Harmon

Absent: Mike Desjardins

Alternates Present: –Lu-Ann Cunningham, Jenn Sangermano

Absent: Chris Barber

Public Present: Paul Desrochers, Kevin Cunningham

Approval of Minutes: Lu-Ann moved to accept the meeting minutes from March 23, 2022; Vernon Gray, Jr. seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

Old Business:

a. Small Group Updates

1. Community Outreach –

- **May 28, 2022** – Sherry Harmon will make the presentation ‘Monarchs & Milkweed’. The first 40 attendees will receive native wild flower seeds.
- **TBD** –Ranger Bill of the Last Green Valley has a new program on skulls. Due to summer availability schedule conflicts we will look to seeing about holding his presentation during Winter Market 2023 and offer a no fee spot for The Last Green Valley.

2. Scholarship and Fundraising –

- The deadline for the scholarship application is April 29, 2022. To date there are no applicants. Jennie Kapszukiewicz and Mike Desjardins will speak to local businesses to discuss donations towards the scholarship.

3. Winter Market – No update

4. Right to Farm – No update

5. Farmers Market – No update

Received For Record At Plainfield CT

On 5-10-2022 @ 12:50 pm

Attest: Sherry Harmon

Town Clerk

6. Plainfield Farming History Project – Vern reported that he was speaking with Lou Soja who has found land owner information; they will be meeting soon to discuss. Vern has been unable to find information on Locke Farm Cemetery. Some information regarding land exchanges has been found on a couple of the properties. Stone Hall District was the previous name and there was the White Hall School House. Interestingly, Locke Road is still registered as an unimproved town road.

b. Open Space Project – This line item will be removed from the agenda.

c. Community Events (events attended, upcoming events, agricultural highlights)

- Lisbon Scout Troop attended the West Point Camporee on April 23, 2022
- 2022 Plant Sale, sponsored by the Quiet Corner Garden Club, will be held on May 7, 2022 at the Woodstock Fairgrounds from 9am – 2pm
- K&H Construction will be holding a Spring Vendor Fair on April 30, 2022 from 10a-2pm. Little Miss Connecticut will be collecting new books and blankets for children in foster care.
- The National Grassfed Exchange Conference will be May 19 and May 20, 2022 in Texas

New Business:

a. Committee Review: Members of the Plainfield Agriculture Commission are encouraged to participate in various committees. Sherry Harmon made a motion that all members to be listed on the Scholarship small group. LuAnn Cunningham seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried. Discussion regarding groups and updates for members is below.

c	Description	Coordinator	Team Members
<i>Community Outreach</i>	Free Programs - The commission selects content for presenters, researches and reaches out to potential presenters, Requests information for Public Relations from presenters, informs commission Seed Library- Research location for seed library, storage unit, how to categorize. Implement and maintain. Monitor and collect data on its usage Community Garden -- Research phase, partnering with town officials	Vern Gray	Chris Barber Sherry Harmon
<i>Scholarship and Fundraising</i>	Fundraising - Researching funding streams to support Agriculture Commission projects. Also captured here is the scholarship raffle, which is held during the Annual Winter Market. Scholarship - Responsible for modifying scholarship application, sending it to high schools during their scholarship period, selecting a recipient, presenting scholarship at the high school awards night, creating letter of selection, creating and sending letter inviting recipient to December meeting, generating certificate, inviting select people to attend meeting	Mike Desjardins	Jo-Ann Desrochers Vern Gray Chris Barber Sherry Harmon Jenn Sangermano Lu-Ann Cunningham
<i>Winter Market</i>	Securing date and location. Creating and distributing applications. Fielding questions from interested vendors. Maintaining table fees and depositing with the finance department at the Town Hall, researching and staying current with license and permit requirements. Creating feedback surveys. Supporting setup, event and cleanup. Requesting	Sherry Harmon	Mike Desjardins Chris Barber Jenn Sangermano Lu-Ann Cunningham

	payment for Janitor. Maintaining event records, including names, addresses and contact information of vendors		
<i>Right to Farm</i>	Commission has researched Right to Farm, a packet can be made for new members. At this point, a draft made from a template needs to be created, proofed and presented to selectmen. Future steps require review from town's attorney, meeting/town vote	Chris Barber	Mike Desjardins Jo-Ann Desrochers
<i>Farmers Market</i>	Initial research conducted at onset of the Plainfield Agriculture Commission ordinance. This was created under the Tendrich leadership for collaboration. It will continue with the Cunningham leadership. This may include further research with other communities with farmers markets, grant research, other funding streams, design, etc.	Jenn Sangermano	Lu-Ann Cunningham
<i>Plainfield Farming History</i>	Research and catalog the history of farms, land base and families of Plainfield.	Vern Gray	Jo-Ann Desrochers

Public Comment: None

Next Meeting: Regular meeting on Wednesday May, 25, 2022

Adjournment: Sherry Harmon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02pm. Vernon Gray, Jr. seconded the motion. All in favor; motioned carried.

Respectfully Submitted:
Sherry Harmon, Secretary