



## **Plainfield Agriculture Commission**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday November 22, 2021**

**7:00 pm**

**Location:** Plainfield Town Hall Community Room

**Time:** Chairperson Jennie Kapszukiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

**Members Present:** Mike Desjardins, Vernon Gray, Jr., Sherry Harmon, Jennie Kapszukiewicz

**Absent:** Jo-Ann Desrochers

**Alternates Present:** Chris Barber – Chris was appointed by the chair to be a voting member

**Absent:** (2 alternate vacancies)

**Public Present:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Sherry Harmon moved to accept the meeting minutes from October 25, 2021 with these additions to the Links on the Agriculture section of the Town's website – (1) Ag Experiment Station, (2) UCONN Extension Services – in place of the current non-working UCONN link, and (3) Killingly Ag Education. Vernon Gray, Jr seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

#### **a. Small Group Updates**

- 1. Community Outreach** –Vernon Gray, Jr. updated the group on Ranger Bill's (Last Green Valley) skull program. He will reach out to see if he is available in May or June for a child-specific presentation. The commission will also consider hosting an educational stations event. Sherry Harmon offered to host a Monarch presentation in April.
- 2. Scholarship and Fundraising** – Jennie will send letters to the 2019, 2020 and 2021 recipients to attend our December meeting for recognition. She will also request the \$500 scholarship check from finance. Sherry will create a donation letter to Jennie and Mike. Jennie will make a gift certificate for Gray Ledge Farm for one tree.
- 3. Winter Market** – Jennie took measurements of the auditorium and will be making a digitized map of the space. Jennie will update the map to include outlet locations as well as measure the lobby. At this point, there is a conservative

estimate of 41 vendor spots in the auditorium. Sherry hopes to send an email out by the end of the weekend. Sherry reviewed the dates and times (10-2), with setup beginning at 8, complete by 9:45. Vendors must bring their own table.

**4. Right to Farm** – No update.

**5. Farmers Market** – No update.

- b. **2022 Meeting schedule** – Sherry Harmon moved to move the regular meeting of the Plainfield Agriculture Commission to be the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM, continuing to take the month of July off. Vernon Gray, Jr. seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- c. **Links of the Agriculture section of Town’s Website** – Commission agreed to make the following changes:
- Add the following: National FFA
  - Jennie will send Kyle Collins an email with the link revisions as well as correcting the term “Agricultural” to Agriculture Commission.
- d. **Community Events** (events attended, upcoming events, agricultural highlights)
- Gray Ledge Farm opens for the season on Friday November 26, 2021. Santa will visit on the weekends from 11-2.
  - Sherry was able to attend virtual meetings for the Connecticut Wildlife Rehabilitation Association and the New York State Wildlife Rehabilitation Association.
  - Vernon Gray, Jr. has his 7<sup>th</sup> Eagle Mentee completing work on the rear entry of the Lisbon Congregational Church after raising \$800 in funding.

**New Business:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Next Meeting:** Regular meeting on Monday December 27, 2021

**Adjournment:** Chris Barber moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49pm. Mike Desjardins seconded the motion. All in favor; motioned carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennie Kapszukiewicz, Chair