



## **Plainfield Agriculture Commission**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday December 27, 2021**

**7:00 pm**

**Location:** Plainfield Town Hall Auditorium

**Time:** Chairperson Jennie Kapszukiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

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

**Absent:** none

**Alternates Present:** none

**Absent:** Chris Barber, (2 alternate vacancies)

**Public Present:** Sherri Hirschboeck, Mark Hirschboeck, Bailey Hirschboeck, Dan Kapszukiewicz, Amy Zurowski, Nathan Zurowski, Paul Desrochers, Kevin Cunningham, Art Gagne, Scott Gardiner

**Approval of Minutes:** Sherry Harmon moved to accept the meeting minutes from November 22, 2021 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 that Ranger Bill of the Last Green Valley will host an event on skulls in June on a Saturday. Jennie will investigate date options and review community calendars for conflicts. Sherry Harmon to host a Monarch presentation in April.
- 2. Scholarship and Fundraising** – No Scholarship update. Jennie will provide Mike with 50 copies of the donor letter for fundraising purposes.
- 3. Winter Market** – Jennie will provide a digital map of vendor spots, including where outlets are located.
- 4. Right to Farm** – No update.
- 5. Farmers Market** – No update.

6. **Plainfield Farming History Project** – No update, but now that Vern’s busy season is behind him, efforts will resume.
- b. **2022 Meeting schedule** – Sherry Harmon moved to accept the proposed 2022 meeting schedule. Mike Desjardins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- c. **Community Events** (events attended, upcoming events, agricultural highlights)
  - Gray Ledge Farm had a successful tree season in record numbers. Santa and a sleigh (provided by Jennie Kapszukiewicz) were available and a big hit for family photos.

**New Business:** Bailey Hirschboeck was recognized as the 2021 Plainfield Agriculture Scholarship recipient. She attends UMASS at Amherst in an all online program, which allows for a world-wide representation of classmates. Her personal farm, Country Critters Farm, located in Sterling, CT raises heritage breeds and a variety of species. She also works on a dairy in Woodstock and supported their summer youth educational program. We wish her much success.

**Public Comment:** Kevin Cunningham thanked commission member Mike Desjardins for his tractor/wagon rides at the Annual tree lighting which took place at the beginning of December.

**Next Meeting:** Regular meeting on Monday January 24, 2022

**Adjournment:** Mike Desjardins moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24pm. Sherry Harmon seconded the motion. All in favor; motioned carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennie Kapszukiewicz, Chair