

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Members present: Melissa Bailey, Robert Blair (associate member), Stephen Craig (associate member), Janet Horne, Helen MacArthur, Elisabeth Patt and William Suarez (associate member).

Member absent: Donna Kramer

Meeting Called to Order: Vice Chairperson Melissa Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Bill Suarez made a motion, seconded by Elisabeth Patt, to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Culinary Event: It was discussed that we use the event as a fund raising activity. We need to find a benefactor with broad appeal. This event would be used to promote local farms to a different audience. August was discussed as a good month to hold the event. Possible locations for the event were the Warren Center in Ashland, the Historical Society, Truffles Restaurant in Milford, Pinecrest Golf Club and the Dahlia Field. Elisabeth Patt will check to see how much money we have in our fund because we need to figure out how much money would be needed to allocate to this project. Melissa Bailey will get information from a person who has already done this type of event. Stephen Craig will check with Truffles and Bill Suarez will check with Pinecrest. We need to get a place, a menu, a theme and a chef.

Community Garden: Stephen Craig and Bill Suarez have rototilled and rye grass has been planted. In the spring, 10x10 boxes will be built. We need to get prices on lumber to build the boxes. The fencing will start once the ground softens up. We will need to buy soil for the garden. Flyers will be made advertising the garden as well as a notice put on cable. Bill Suarez will take care of the notice for the cable. Water is going to be overhead sprinklers.

Annual Report: Bobby Blair made a motion, seconded by Stephen Craig, to accept the Agricultural Commission's report to be sent to Andrea Minihan for the Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Town Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Newcomers Grant: The possibility of applying for a grant for the Community Garden in order to commit to an area to raise crops strictly for the Food Pantry was discussed. Melissa Bailey will get a copy of the grant application.

Website: Bill Suarez reported that the calendar has been updated.

Elisabeth Patt made a motion, seconded by Stephen Craig, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Horne, Clerk