

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Members present: Justin Brown (associate), Janet Horne, Natalie Kent (associate), PJ Kilkelly (associate), Tony Lulek and Paula Mark.

Members absent: Donna Kramer and Helen MacArthur.

Meeting Called to Order: Vice Chairperson, Paula Mark called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Justin Brown made a motion, seconded by PJ Kilkelly, to accept the minutes of the May 29, 2014 meeting with one correction. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Garden and Cranberry Bog: Paula Mark reported that she has found some cranberries for planting. PJ Kilkelly was congratulated in securing a \$1500.00 donation from the Holliston in Bloom Committee for the Community Garden. PJ Kilkelly reported that he has gotten a donation of used brick and a picnic table. He will put in a 10x10 patio with the picnic table at the garden. He also stated that the shed should be 6x8 and would be located in the far back left hand corner. We also need to buy lumber because we will have the additional space of adding 10 new plots to the garden. Right now we do have two plots still available for planting which if anyone does wish to use them, we would charge them half the season rate. It was suggested that for the cranberries we build a rectangular box. There has still been a problem with the water and after many trips to the Town Hall by PJ Kilkelly, it was supposed to be repaired today. PJ Kilkelly did not have a chance to get up to the garden to see if this has been accomplished. It was decided that for right now we would wait on the planting of the cranberries. Natalie Kent said that she would clean up the two boxes that are available now for leasing. Natalie reported that she has been taking pictures throughout the process for a before and after. Janet Horne said that she has some pictures from when the garden was first opened and would send them to the other members. Between the grant from the Garden Club, the money from Holliston in Bloom and our account, we have \$3800.00 which will be allocated to the garden. PJ Kilkelly mentioned about putting in another water spicket on the other side of the garden. There was a discussion relative to suggestions as to where we can procure a donation of the wood chips. Justin Brown will talk to Simpkins. Also mentioned as a possible source was Stumpys and Tree Specialists. There was also discussion relative to putting up a message board. PJ Kilkelly said that he would be contacting the members of the Commission when he is at the point where we can help in the completion of this project. Natalie is continuing to check on grants. PJ Kilkelly mentioned that perhaps we could create a Butterfly Farm at the garden. We would need a hoop building with netting. Justin Brown mentioned that we need a sign in front of the garden as well as out in front of the clubhouse and perhaps direction signs. Tony Lulek stated that the Garden Club had created a brochure on the trees at the golf course and perhaps the next time they may print this brochure, the garden could be included. PJ stated that we could put a combination lock on the gate into the garden for security. It was also suggested that we put the garden in as one of the stops for Farms Day.

Farms Day: Tony Lulek will be doing the flyers. It was suggested that we get name badges for the members of the Agricultural Commission.

Website: Justin Brown reported that he has done some minor adjustments to the website. He would like to add the information on the transformation at the Community Garden. He would also like to post the letter from the Garden Club. Tony has Andy Tomolisøbook which we could put excerpts on the site each month. The Facebook page is doing exceedingly well and people are using it the way it was meant to be used.

Celebrate Holliston: We will have our informational table as well as picture displays for the Community Garden, Winter Event and Farms Day.

Holliston in Bloom: PJ Kilkelly reported that the Community Garden will be one of the stops for the judges.

Miscellaneous: Tony Lulek stated that Mary Greendale has contacted him relative to doing a farm report on her show on June 24, 2014. Tony was going to see if this could possibly be moved so that it was closer to the date of Farms Day. Tony also brought up the subject of pesticide and the environment. There is a lot of pesticide stuff going on where there is a lot of ignorance as far as the far reaching effects. It was felt that we need to promote non-pesticide and a healthy way of doing things. This is a tough issue and it was felt that this would be a good topic to put on our website. We should be trying to be a green community. Justin Brown reported that he has the 61A list which he will e-mail to the members of the Commission. **The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, July 15, 2014.**

Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Justin Brown, that we adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Horne, Clerk