

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION  
MINUTES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

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

Member absent: Helen MacArthur

Guests: Bobby Blair, Dennis Serocki and Elizabeth Yon.

Meeting Called to Order: Chairperson, Tony Lulek called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Justin Brown made a motion, seconded by Donna Kramer, to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2014 meeting with one correction. The motion passed unanimously.

Serocki Agricultural Preserve: Elizabeth Yon, who is one of the teachers at the Natick Community Farm, spoke to the group relative to a program at the farm. She is involved with the forest kindergarten, a program which involves students from 3 to 6 years of age. They have outdoor programs which go on all year round. She is very interested and would like to hear more about what we are doing relative to the preserve. The members all felt that her input was welcomed and would like to have her help in developing programs. Elizabeth said that she would be able to make herself available to help us. Tony Lulek stated that one of our goals is to develop educational programs. PJ Kilkelly reported that the pipes froze but they have been thawed and there was no damage. We have received some oil. It was decided that the pipes should be drained and then be hooked back up in the spring. There is no insulation in the attic. Tony Lulek reported that members of the Commission as well as the Open Space Committee gathered at the property on Saturday, January 3, 2015 to walk the property and to see the house. The management of the property falls to us. Justin Brown stated that we need to care of the water, heat, power, etc. It was suggested that to go to a Selectmen's meeting to demonstrate that we are invested in this and show that we are responsible. Donna Kramer asked if we have a strategic plan. Tony Lulek stated that we need to decide what our priorities are. Lixy is suppose to contact the Farm Bureau relative to the CR. Paula Mark asked that once the CR is in place what do we need to do. Donna Kramer will ask the Farm Bureau where we may be relative to the application and what information they may need from us. Tony Lulek stated that a survey needs to be done on the property. Justin Brown stated that we need to talk about boundaries. Tony Lulek stated that we need to construct something to block the driveway. Tony Lulek is planning to go to the All Boards Meeting to see if he can get more information relative to the property.

Lantern Walk: Justin Brown stated that thanks needs to be given to PJ Kilkelly for all he did in pulling together our table at the walk. We served hot apple cider and cookies to those participating in the walk. He felt that our stop was the best one. PJ Kilkelly stated that he has booked the same spot for next year.

Kiss the Pig: PJ Kilkelly stated that the contest is going very well. He needs to have all the cards back by the end of February. Justin Brown asked if there is any other way that this can be promoted. Donna Kramer stated that Richard Hildreth has a lot of knowledge on butterflies and wants to help us with the aviary. He will come to our next meeting.

Is it Spring Yet?: It was decided that we would do the same type of event as last year. We need to highlight our plans for SAP. PJ Kilkelly will be bringing his animals. Tony Lulek will put together the flyer. Donna Kramer will order a banner for the event.

Fund Raising: It was decided to table the idea of a golf tournament for this year because we are not ready to make the time or monetary investment that would be involved with such an event. Justin Brown stated that we could possibly work with another committee in putting together a tournament.

Logo: Justin Brown has come up with a number of logos. It was decided to go with the one with the cranberries and do one with a circle for cards and one without a circle for shirts.

Brooksmount Farm: Pulte has given an indication that historical agricultural items could be taken. Also there is still a question of the possibility of moving the barn.

Website: Justin Brown gave each member the information on the site usage. Members talked about the community garden application.

Community Garden: Justin Brown suggested that we plan to have a ribbon cutting ceremony at the garden in the spring. With regard to the aviary, PJ Kilkelly is trying to get into the schools to get the incubators going. This project is going to require a big commitment.

Miscellaneous: Justin Brown reported that the Holliston in Bloom committee is branching out to subcommittees. He will have more information at our next meeting relative to what we may be involved with.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Justin Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Horne, Clerk