

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

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

Member absent: Justin Brown (associate)

Interested Parties: Bobby Blair, Tyla Doolin, Chris Gaboriault

Meeting called to order: Chairperson, Tony Lulek called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Holliston Lions Club Presentation: Chris Gaboriault, President of Lions Club, spoke on what the Lions Club does and who they contribute to. He thanked the Commission for allowing him to participate in the Kiss the Pig contest. He presented a check in the amount of \$1000.00 to the Agricultural Commission. He asked the members if we could put the Lions Club logo on our flyers and promotional material. He also asked the members our feelings relative to using the Rogers Road Property for the Haunted Hayride in October. In the past it has been at Breezy Hill Farm. The Lions Club is willing to team up with us as a joint fundraiser where we would split half the profits. There will be a need to approach other groups in town relative to asking them to run some of the scare sites. More than likely the date for the event would be October 23, 2015 and October 24, 2015. Chris stated that they have a lot of props already. Tractors would be used for the event. The Lions Club would provide the insurance in addition to what the town has. They have the generators and the lights. The details for this event would have to be worked out over the summer. Tony Lulek said that the event sounds fantastic and would be a good fund raiser. It is a possibility, if successful, that the property could be a spot that would be used every year. Natalie spoke relative to the Leos and getting the high school art and drama students involved. Maybe speak to the President of the Drama club and the coaches of the sports teams. This is a new thought for them and something to work on through the summer. Chris stated that this is new territory for the Lions asking other groups to come in to do a site. Tony Lulek thinks that it is a great idea. All members of the commission present, by a show of hands, unanimously approved pursuing this event. Chris stated that he would like to have an opportunity to walk around the property. Tony Lulek will make arrangements with Chris to get together to do this.

Helen MacArthur, Treasurer reported a balance of \$8,310.38 in our account. Tony Lulek gave Helen the electric bills for the Rogers Road property to process for payment. PJ Kilkelly reported that so far the bills total \$2,580 for the aviary.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Helen MacArthur, to accept the minutes of the June 9, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Butterfly Aviary: For the opening event on July 11, 2015 the following is what the various members of the Commission will be bringing ó Janet Horne ó condiments, folding tables, paper supplies, cookies; Natalie Kent ó drinks and 3 coolers (2 for lemonade and 1 for water); PJ

Kilkelly ó grill, hot dogs, rolls, trashbags; Tony Lulek ó drinks and ice; Helen MacArthur ó watermelon; Paula Mark ó popcorn and cookies. Tony Lulek will prepare a press release and Paula Mark will see that it is distributed to HCAT, MetroWest News and Holliston Reporter as well as on Facebook. It was decided to have a donation jar at the event as well as a brochure on the aviary with a request asking for donations. Tony Lulek stated that he would do the brochure and have it ready for the event. Right now the butterfly that will be in the aviary is the Painted Lady. PJ Kilkelly stated that next year he would like to have a bigger selection. Possibly next year we would be able to make our own butterfly kits. The banner is done and PJ showed it to the other members of the commission. PJ stated that he is hoping to get the netting up on Thursday. Natalie Kent's daughter is going to be painting the butterflies on the walls of the aviary. She has been sketching things out. PJ just needs notice on when she is going to do it. Natalie said that she can finish up the planting. The window boxes are done. The mulching is done. Hanging pots still need to be done. PJ has picked up some plastic ones. PJ will take care of the mulch that is left. Tony has some milkweed plants. Junior AgCom will help out on the event. PJ needs help with the watering this coming week. The following watering schedule was set: 6/7-Janet, 6/5-Tony, 6/7-Natalie, 6/9-Paula.

Community Garden: Natalie Kent just got a check for the last plot. Everyone is now accounted for. She has the first wait list for 2016. Paula Mark stated that the cranberries are still alive. There is enough room to make a plot for plants for the aviary. The gardens all look good.

Junior Agricultural Commission: Tyla Doolin is going to go up and weed around all the beds before the opening of the aviary. PJ Kilkelly stated that after the aviary is open, there will have to be different shifts to cover for people wanting to go inside to see the butterflies.

Commission Appointment: Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Janet Horne, that PJ Kilkelly move from an associate member to a full member. This motion passed unanimously. Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Helen MacArthur, that Tyra Doolin be appointed an associate member. This motion passed unanimously.

Assignment of Town Commissions Meetings: Tony Lulek spoke relative to assigning members to go to other meetings. The meetings mentioned were Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Open Space and Board of Health. Following are the assignments: Tony Lulek-Conservation Commission, Paula Mark-Historical Commission, Helen MacArthur-Board of Health, and PJ Kilkelly-Open Space. Each individual will need to check the agendas for these groups.

Farms Day: Janet Horne to send out letters to the various farms to ascertain who is interested in participating this year. Tony Lulek will get the flyers done. Paula Mark has the signs.

Rogers Road Property: Tony Lulek reported that he went to a Selectmen's meeting relative to the request from Andy Reseska to place beehives on the property. The selectmen did give their approval. Tony Lulek has prepared a letter of agreement which will need to be completed, signed and accompanied by a check in the amount of \$100.00 from Andy Reseska. The Selectmen have also stated that they want to see a business plan relative to the property. Tony stated that he has been contacted by Mary Greendale relative to helping with this project. This is

something that we cannot manage ourselves. An advisory board needs to be put together as well as forming a Nonprofit 501(c)3 to manage the land under the CR. We need to have an open meeting to find out who would be interested in serving on the Advisory Board as well as on the Board of Directors of the Nonprofit 501(c)3. We do want the Agricultural Commission to remain connected to the nonprofit. Tony Lulek has spoken to Rolf Briggs relative to his question of one of his workers living in the house as a caretaker. Right now this has been placed on hold because we have found out that the septic system has failed. Paula Mark stated that she is still waiting for a proposal from GLM relative to the survey. Tony Lulek stated that he feels that following what the Natick Community Organic Farm and the Medway Community Farm have done is the way to go. Tony also reported that Rolf Briggs is setting up a class on the property in October. Paula Mark stated that her son Joey will go up to the property to mow the lawn. Tony Lulek stated that he had planted some flowers on the property. Both Tony Lulek and Paula Mark now have the keys to the house. Tony Lulek will send a letter to Andy Reseska relative to the placement of his hives on the property.

Miscellaneous:

Tony Lulek stated that he will do a tri fold on the Butterfly Aviary for the Holliston in Bloom judges. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by PJ Kilkelly, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

All Members

Opening of the Butterfly Aviary on Saturday, July 11, 2015 – 1:00 – 4:00 PM.

Janet – condiments, folding tables, paper products, cookies

Natalie – drinks and 3 coolers

PJ – grill, hot dogs, rolls, trashbags

Tony – drinks and ice

Helen – watermelon

Paula – popcorn and cookies

Watering at the Community Garden and Butterfly Aviary

7/3/15 – Janet

7/5/15 – Tony

7/7/15 – Natalie

7/9/15 – Paula

Janet

Send letters to the Farms relative to their interest in participating in Farms Day this year.

Tony

Get together with Chris Gaboriault to walk the Rogers Road property.

Prepare a press release for the Butterfly Aviary event and give it to Paula for distribution.

Prepare a brochure on the Butterfly Aviary incorporating a request for donations towards the aviary.

Send a letter to Andy Reseska relative to the placement of the hives and the completion of the paperwork and remitting his check in the amount of \$100.00.

Do a tri fold on the Butterfly Aviary to be seen by the Holliston in Bloom judges.

Paula

Distribute press release on the Butterfly Aviary to HCAT, MetroWest News and Holliston Reporter.

GLM proposal relative to a survey of the Rogers Road property.

Mowing of the lawn at the Rogers Road property (Joey).

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Horne, Clerk