

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Members present: Justin Brown (associate), Tyla Doolin (associate), Janet Horne, Tony Lulek and Paula Mark.

Members absent: Natalie Kent (associate) and Helen MacArthur

Interested Parties: Bobby Blair, Abby Dawson and Kate Gray

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

It was mentioned that different members of the commission have bills that need to go to the Treasurer in order to be processed and paid. Tony Lulek has bills from Eversource for the Rogers Road property, Janet Horne has a bill for the booth fee for Celebrate Holliston and Paula Mark has a bill for the printing of flyers for Farms Day.

Minutes of the Last Two Meetings: Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Justin Brown, to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2015 and September 16, 2015 meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Garden and Butterfly Aviary: Tony Lulek reported that the aviary is officially closed for the season. We need to make sure that everything is secured for the winter. Justin Brown asked if there would be a garden clean up. Tony stated that it is the gardeners responsibility which Natalie will oversee to make sure it is done. Paula Mark stated that we need to start gathering seeds from the plants in the aviary. Tony stated that we need to get more literature at the aviary and also get other groups involved with it. It was suggested that we approach the science teachers relative to hatching the spring butterflies. It was reported that we have a waiting list for the garden for next year. Some of the plots need new boards. Jim Tarelli is going to do the boards. Justin Brown stated that we need to hold the people to their contract. Tony Lulek stated that he will talk to the Selectmen relative to the snow disposal for the upcoming winter. Under public comment ó Kate Gray stated that she felt that notice should have been given as to when the aviary was closing for the season. We also need to put out a statement in the Spring as to when it will be open.

Rogers Road ó Tony Lulek stated that we need to get in contact with a lawyer relative to the forming of a 501(c)3. It was suggested that we should contact Bill Mayer (town counsel) to see if he would be able to do it. If he can't then maybe he could suggest someone that would. Paula Mark will contact Bill Mayer. Justin Brown asked that we not discuss the overall project but that we concentrate on the 501(c)3, CR, Advisory Board and funding. It was decided to table the funding piece. Justin stated that we are pretty close on the CR. All the members of the Commission reviewed the document. Justin stated that the 2006 version of the town's Open Space and Recreation Plan was referenced in the CR. All of the edits have been made on the document. Members should review the document again to make sure that everything is correct.

Justin stated that he does need the docket number as well as the name of the individual at Farm Bureau. Tony thanked Justin for doing a great job. We should request to be on the Conservation Committee's agenda for next week where we can present them with the CR. Tony Lulek drafted an action letter to go along with the CR. All of the members reviewed the letter and gave their approval. With regard to the Advisory Board, Paula Mark asked Justin if there have been many responses. Justin said that so far he has not. Tony Lulek read a listing of people who have told him that they were interested. We still have not gotten the list from Mary Greendale. Tony stated that he is going to go up to check out the barn because of the request from the 2017 senior class on storing items for their class auction. Under public comment ó Bobby Blair asked if we have a number for the Advisory Board. Tony Lulek did state that we need a business and strategic plan.

Haunted Hayride: The application is out for those who want to run a site for the Haunted Hayride. Tony stated that we need to clarify exactly what is expected of us to do. We do have to come up with a site. Paula Mark will check with Brian Kramer to see if he can help us.

Website: Justin Brown reported that there were a lot of hits on the site on Farms Day.

Positions Available on the Commission: Tony Lulek reported that PJ Kilkelly has resigned from the Commission. We need to put an application for the opening on the website as well as a notice that there is an opening.

Miscellaneous: Mary Greendale had sent out a notice relative to two classes coming up. One class is "Exploring Small Farm Dream" at a cost of \$100.00 and the other class is "Tilling the Soil" at a cost of \$200. Janet Horne made a motion, seconded by Tony Lulek, that we send two people to each class with expenses paid. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Justin Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

All Members

Make sure that everything is secure at the Butterfly Aviary for the winter.

Start gathering seeds from the plants in the Aviary.

Approach the science teachers relative to hatching the spring butterflies.

Tony Lulek

Talk to the Selectmen relative to the snow disposal this upcoming winter.

*Request to be on the Conservation Committee's agenda to present the CR.
Check out the condition of the barn on Rogers Road for the feasibility of storing auction items
for the 2017 Senior Class.*

Paula Mark

Contact Bill Mayer relative to the 501(c)3.

Contact Brian Kramer relative to the Haunted Hayride.

Justin Brown

Put a notice and an application on the website relative to an opening on the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Horne, Clerk