

# HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

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

Interested Parties: Bobby Blair, Lisa Bobrin, Kristen Serocki and Jocelyn Tremblay.

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

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Helen MacArthur, to table the minutes until the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Rogers Road Property: Tony Lulek reported that the property has been totally winterized. Paula Mark is meeting with the Water Department to shut off the water from the street. She also is talking to the town about the snowplowing. Paula reported that she met with Jeff Ritter who has stated that we need to get a RFP (Request for Proposal) in place. Paula has done research on this and found that the Town of Concord have two. It was suggested that we should go through them at our next meeting. We need a farmer for the land who will be in charge of spearheading the farm operation. The RFP would be put out by the town since the land is owned by the town. Lisa Bobrin asked how this had come up and Jocelyn asked as far as the process is concerned, who makes the decision. This has to stay within the guidelines of the CR. Tony Lulek stated that the educational component would be overseen by the farmer. Once the RFP is ready, there will be an announcement and will be put out for all interested parties. Justin Brown asked for a timeline of how we got to this point. The main thing is that we move forward. This will be put on our agenda for the next meeting. Paula will send out information on RFP to everyone. We need to work on putting together the format and application. Jeff Ritter has asked for help in writing it. His job is to write it with our recommendation. He asked Paula to bring it to the Commission. Tony stated that he thinks that this is a better path to go. We need someone in place who can handle it. Paula stated that she thinks that this is the proper way to do it. Tony is putting a hold on the establishment of a 501(c)(3). Paula will check with Jeff Ritter on the town's stance on this. She will also check with Jeff relative to the timeline.

Spring Event: It was decided to stay with "It's Spring Yet" as the name for our spring event. The times for the event will be 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The event will take place at MacArthur's Farm with no self-promoting. The following are the different tables at the event:

Justin Brown ó Holliston in Bloom ó mulching  
Compost Bins on Display  
David Dubin ó Composting  
Lisa Bobrin ó Educate on organic method farming  
Kristen Serocki ó Soil Testing  
Tony Lulek ó Pollinators  
Jocelyn Tremblay ó Seed Swapping and Seed Catalogs

Peter MacArthur ó Seed Planting  
Natalie Kent ó Community Garden

Decorate Pots and Plant Flowers to be transferred to the Butterfly Aviary  
which could tie into the opening.

Helen MacArthur ó Individual talking on soil

Henry Patt ó Pruning

Nancy Dubin ó Chickens

Holliston AgCom ó Informational Table

Helen MacArthur stated that banners can go on either side of the property. We need to make up name signs for each table.

Website: Tony Lulek questioned as to how important the website is. Justin Brown stated that it could be used more. It needs more contributors. He feels that we should continue with the website. He will check out domains.

Miscellaneous: Janet Horne reported that our annual report has been submitted to the town. Paula Mark made a motion, seconded by Janet Horne, that our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Horne, Clerk