

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES

Tuesday, February 19, 2013

Members present: Janet Horne, Donna Kramer, Tony Lulek, Helen MacArthur, Paula Mark (associate member) and William Suarez.

Guests: Bobby Blair and PJ Kilkelly

Meeting Called to Order: Chairperson, Tony Lulek called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Helen MacArthur made a motion, seconded by William Suarez, to accept the minutes of January 15, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Winter Event: Paula Mark reported that flyers have been distributed everywhere with the exception of the Senior Center and the library. The following have also been contacted relative to the event: Wicked Local Reporter, Holliston Net News, Holliston Reporter, cable, Boston Globe and the Holliston Patch. Donna Kramer will have sandwich boards for placement at Prentice and Highland Street and in front of the Town Hall. Everything is all set with Andy Tomolonis. Tony Lulek will check out the equipment at the school. Tony Lulek will contact the farms to ask them each to set up an informational table. Bobby Blair was also asked to set up a table relative to "Holliston in Bloom". The Agricultural Commission will also have a table. Tony Lulek will contact Paul LeBeau relative to sending out an e-mail on the event to all town officials and committee members. All members of the Commission should plan to be at the school at 6:30 PM.

Farming Practices: Donna Kramer reported that she went to an equine meeting relative to point of origin for run off. Tony Lulek met with George Fisk of Sherborn where they are concerned about the same issue.

Website: Tony Lulek is working on a new website.

Agriculture in the Classroom: A discussion was held relative to if we want to develop a program for the school. Donna Kramer suggested that maybe we do 2 classes. Paula Mark reported that the 3rd grade class is going to do two plots in the Community Garden. Helen MacArthur suggested that we try to buy a piece of history by developing a cranberry bog. Helen MacArthur will check with the Wareham Cranberry Station to check to see if they will have plants available. It was also suggested that we get the cranberry plants to be distributed to those interested at the same time the Garden Club has their plant sale in order to have cranberries planted all around town.

Miscellaneous: We received a letter for the Board of Selectmen relative to PJ Kilkelly's request to become an associate member. Donna Kramer made a motion, seconded by William Suarez, that PJ Kilkelly become an associate member of the Commission. The motion passed

unanimously. The history of how the Agricultural Commission was formed and how the Right to Farm by-law came about was discussed. The date of March 2, 2013 will be the State Agricultural Commission meeting and April 2, 2013 is Agriculture Day at the State House. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 20, 2013. It was decided that the date for Farms Day will be Sunday, September 8, 2013 with a rain date of Sunday, September 15, 2013. Celebrate Holliston is on September 21, 2013.

William Suarez made a motion, seconded by Donna Kramer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Horne, Clerk