

# **Holliston Community Farm Advisory Board**

## **Minutes 02/03/2021**

Kriss Westland read the meeting opening article and took attendance.

Members present: Dennis Prefontaine, Jim Taralli, Kriss Westland, Dennis Serocki, and Kristen Serocki

Guests: Melissa Murphy and Shannon Gratton, Bobby Blair

Motion to approve the last meetings minutes by Dennis Prefontaine seconded by Jim.  
Approved by all members.

Melissa Murphy: Worked with Upswing Farm in the prior years, due to their move she is looking to start her own endeavor possible at the Community Farm. She will still be working with Upswing farm to some compacity, growing her own crop and selling at markets.

She is looking for a growing space from May-Oct. Mellissa is interested in using the same area that Kevin and Brittany used last year, with the hopes to add space possibly each year. She would also like to use some space in the greenhouse, possibly the last 20 ft or so. She would like to see how this year goes and then reevaluate for the future.

Rent would be her water fees accrued over the time of her planting as well as any other utility fees. She could also help with the parks and recs classes and our seedling sale. We will still have to work out the details of the rent amounts and work up a formal agreement.

Dennis P made a motion to let Melissa use the space, Jim seconded the motion. The committee voted. All member voted yes.

Bobby Blair gave an update on the Farmers market he is trying to start at Blair Square. There were some questions on what group will handle the money that the farmers market will raise. Bobby suggested that the Friends of the Community farm could handle it and PJ agreed. Bobby is working on getting a license for the market to happen once a week. They are working on their business plan for the events.

Seedling Sale: Shannon mentioned that Seed Savor has some seeds that they will donate, she will investigate it and try to get some for the farm. We will need to get some expenses covered for the sale; Kristen will reach out to PJ to see if we can get funds through the Friends of the Farm for our fundraiser.

Dennis P made a motion to the group to run the seedling sale, Dennis Serocki seconded the motion. The group voted and all members voted yes to having the seedling sale as a fundraiser.

Shannon started a spreadsheet which covered types of plants we should sell, planting timelines, and possible revenues.

We will sell vegies, Peppers, tomatoes, Eggplant, Squash varieties, and a selection of herbs.

Since we do not have a warmer place to start the seeds on plants that take longer to start, we will get some starter plants. Such as Tomatoes, peppers, Rosemary, and Eggplant.

We will also need to find the right seed starter mix. Kathy Prefontaine may be able to help us set up an ordering and payment option online for the sale.

Our next meeting will be in two weeks, Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm