

**APPROVED
TOWN OF PELHAM
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES
DEC 1, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER – Member Danielle Masse-Quinn called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

ROLL CALL:

Jenny Larson - Absent
Jessica Edwards – Absent
Steve Doherty – Present
Laura Spottiswood – Present
Danielle Masse-Quinn – Present
Joe Boissonneault – Present
Michelle Cooke – Present
Charlene Takesian – Selectman Representative

In Jenny Larson’s absence, Danielle Masse-Quinn appointed Joe Boissonneault as a voting member for tonight’s meeting

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: (Boissonneault/Doherty) To accept meeting minutes as written, from November 3rd Agricultural Commission meeting.

VOTE: (4-0-0) The motion carries

OPEN FORUM:

Selectman Charlene Takesian spoke to the commission about the Council on Aging planning a Legacy Garden to see if we would want to reach out to the council to offer help on the project. She will ask them if they need any help and if so, what kind of help and report back to the Agricultural Commission. Then we can see if it is something we can help with.

APPOINTMENTS:

None

TREASURY:

Mr. Doherty reported that there is \$2,299.96 in treasury.

Receipts totaling \$181.87 submitted from John Spottiswood from the Farmer's Market.

MOTION: (Boissonneault/Doherty) To reimburse John Spottiswood in total \$181.96. (\$90.00 Festival of Trees Ad in Book/\$91.97 Christmas Tree)

VOTE: (4-0-0) The motion carries

Discussion about funds for Agricultural Commission versus Farmer's Market and how the funds are recorded. The funds are all in one account, but discussion about keeping separate ledgers. There are concerns about using Farmer's Market funds for Agricultural Commission purposes and vice versa. Mr. Doherty stated that he can keep separate ledgers starting in January.

DISCUSSION:

- Farmers Market: Fall / Winter update – from John Spottiswood
One Winter Market held on 11/19/22. Good number of vendors, fairly well-attended. One Winter Market left on 12/17/22. The next season of the Farmers Market runs from June 3-October 14, 2023.
- Right to Farm Ordinance – After much discussion, the commission feels that much of what was drafted is covered by the State statute. The discussion was tabled. The group thanks Ms. Masse-Quinn for her research and work on this subject.
- Community Outreach – Ms. Cooke has reached out to the High School about any students that may want to come play music at the Farmers Market next year. She has established contacts and will continue to work on this. Discussion about getting more town groups to use the Community Tent at the Farmers Market.
Would Ag Commission want to hold classes/events at the Farmers Market:
Planting Class
Pie Contest

Mr. Doherty spoke about a great resource in the “Is your town farm friendly?” article from the NH Municipal Association. It was agreed that we could review this information. Can we get copies made for the group?

- Master Plan – It was agreed that the Agricultural Commission may want to come up with a summary of wants and hopes that Ms. Masse -Quinn

and Mr. Spottiswood could present to the Master Plan group such as buffer zones, etc.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Boissonneault/Doherty) To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: (4-0-0) The motion carries

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spottiswood
Agricultural Commission Secretary