

**Approved Meeting Minutes
Agriculture Commission
February 1, 2024**

**Pelham Police Community room
6 Village Green, Pelham, NH**

Call to Order 6:30 PM

In attendance:

Jenny Larson, Chair
Steve Doherty, Treasurer
Laura Spottiswood, Secretary
Charlene Takesian, Board of Selectmen Representative
Michelle Cooke, Member
James Fisher, Alternate
Danielle Masse-Quinn - absent

Pledge of Allegiance

James Fischer is appointed as a voting member for the meeting.

Meeting Minutes Review Motion to accept meeting minutes from December 2023 and January 2024.

(Cooke/Doherty) Motion carries (5-0-0)

Announcement: none

Appointment: None.

Discussion:

Open positions. There is still confusion about when members are due for re-election. Ms. Takesian and Ms. Larson will talk to Melissa at the Board of Selectman office again and try to correct the terms. Discussed the by-laws and if they were update to reflect terms to change to every three years, now that terms are staggered. Tabling discussion until the matter is resolved.

Treasury Report: Mr. Doherty reported that the treasury has \$1,497.41 from the Farmers Market and \$400.00 in the second column.

Chestnut Tree Project:

Mr. Fisher met with the Forestry Commission and the group liked the idea of the project. Mr. Fisher went to their meeting to introduce the project and talk about planting the American Chestnut Trees on Forestry land.

Discussion about joining the VT/NH Chapter of the American Chestnut Tree Foundation

Motion: To spend \$100.00 to join the VT/NH Chapter of the American Chestnut Tree Foundation (Cooke/Fisher) Motion Carries (5-0-0)

Further discussion about the cost of seedlings, tubes and type of environment the trees need to thrive. Over the next month members will review costs and possible locations.

Compost:

Ms. Cooke had 3 banners made for the Transfer Station for the compost area. The banners are beautiful and are perfect to alert residents of where and how the compost project works. Thank you, Ms. Cooke. The banners will be brought to the transfer station to be hung.

Ms. Cooke also stated that she did speak with Chip Magee, the superintendent of schools and he stated that he is looking forward to working with the Agricultural Commission on the Compost project.

Community Garden:

Discussed the agreement that the Pentecostal Church had written up about the community garden. Ms. Takesian wanted to clarify what she needed to ask the town attorney about.

Farmers Market:

Ms. Spottiswood discussed new state laws that allow for home cooking without food licensing which will open up options for the Farmers Market.

Motion: To adjourn (Cooke/Doherty) Motion Carries (5-0-0)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spottiswood
Pelham Agricultural Commission
Secretary

