

**APPROVED
TOWN OF PELHAM
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Jenny Larson called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Jenny Larson, Jessica Edwards, Stephen Doherty, Jeff Caira
Laura Spottiswood, Alternate Jeff Caira, Alternate John Spottiswood,
Selectman Kevin Cote

Ms. Larson appointed Alternate Jeff Caira to be a voting member for the Meeting.

ABSENT: Theresa Wentzell

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: (Doherty/Edwards) To accept meeting minutes from December 10, 2020 Agricultural Commission meeting.

VOTE: (5-0-0) The Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S):

Ms. Larson stated that as a commission we agree that the Agricultural Commission does not write ordinances for ballot; another Board can write. We may only advise. We did our job on the animal ordinance. We did a great job with it.

OPEN FORUM:

No one came forward.

APPOINTMENT(S):

Charlene from the Pelham Community Spirit Group had to cancel tonight. She had a personal conflict come up in her schedule.

TREASURY:

Mr. Doherty stated that our account is currently at \$80.00.

DISCUSSION

Farmer's Market

- Sub-Committee or Association option
- Location – Parkway Green would be great location, need to get cost from town
- Saturday mornings best time
- State Law – needs to be on town land if you are a vendor, can't be on private land
- The Ag Commission will oversee, guide and promote the market
- The market needs 2 agricultural vendors to form a farmer's market (agricultural commodities: wood, honey, wool, vegetables, etc.)
- Exclusivity limits the market, competition and lots of goods is better
- Vendor applications
- Sponsorships may be a good idea to raise money & promote sponsors
- Jimmy from Chunky's may be willing to put an ad up
- What does it entail accepting WIC, do vendors have to accept WIC

MOTION: (L.Spottiswood/Doherty) To establish a subcommittee for the farmer's market, advisory to the Agricultural Commission only. The subcommittee can not make decisions on behalf of the Agricultural Commission.

VOTE: (5-0-0) The motion carried.

Ms. Larson appointed members: Herself, Ms. Larson and Mr. Spottiswood

Selectman Cote made note that when the subcommittee meets, there can only be (2) two members of the Ag Commission present.

MARCH VOTING

The Board of Selectmen will act accordingly to get the Animal Ordinance on the ballot for March.

At this time, we are not aware of any citizen petitions relative to livestock bans, that were submitted to the Board of Selectmen for March.

Mr. Cote asked the Agricultural Commission to explain position on Animal Ordinance and the email that was sent stating that the commission does not write ordinances for the ballot, that the Ag Commission is advisory only. There was discussion on the topic.

UNH GUIDELINES & WASTE MANAGEMENT

Ms. Larson has an appointment on January 19, 2021 with the Board of Selectmen to present the UNH Guidelines & Waste Management. The appointment is subject to change, but she would like the Ag Commission to attend if possible.

The advantages of adopting the UNH Guidelines were discussed.

- When the town adopts the guidelines and the State is called with a complaint, it gives the state an advantage on helping with the issue and they may be able to address the issue in a more timely fashion.
- Adopting the UNH Guidelines can help the Animal Control Officer and the Code Enforcement Officer deal with local problems.
- There is a complaint form included in the guidelines.
- Adopting the UNH guidelines has helped the number of complaints in towns, such as Windham.

NON PUBLIC SESSION – If requested in accordance with RSA91-A:3

Not requested

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTE: (5-0-0) The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spottiswood
Secretary

