

Minutes of Agriculture Commission Meeting 7/17/13

Meeting Room, Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm

Present: Deb Espinosa, Renee Cuprak, Tim Huchthausen, Mitch Beauregard

Guest: Stephanie Scionti

Minutes from May 15, 2013 and June 11, 2013 were read and accepted.

Vote on Agriculture Commission officers for upcoming 2 years:

Motion to postpone voting until next meeting made and seconded, and approved.

Old Business:

Hampton Farm Fair: July 14th 2:00pm – 5:00pm. Turnout was good, feedback from farmers has been positive. We will look into music, bounce house, and more special events for next year. Also work on announcing events i.e. sheep herding, alpaca obstacle course, etc. to alert fairgoers. Fire Department expressed interest in providing food for next year. July 13, 2014 selected for next year, motion made and seconded, and approved.

Commission will work on sending out notices now for next year to other Hampton groups, politicians, and State of CT DOAg for inclusion in upcoming fair booklets and website postings.

Renee will develop new registration form for fair participants, using town hall address for submission.

Commission budget: Deb will speak with Alan and Leslie regarding budget process for postage, copies, advertising, etc.

New Business:

Farm Tours: Deb will contact Melinda Fields about potential tour. Three Niece Farm will look to coordinate with commission for a fall open house again this year.

Discussion around preseason events and/or seminars. Deb and Mitch will contact Master Gardeners and Seed Savers to see if there is interest in providing speakers for late winter/early spring event.

Discussed developing archive vault for chairman's information to be passed on to new members. Will look into creating informational files based upon chairman's notebook.

Announcements:

Three Niece Farm is sponsoring a 2 day clinic July 20-21 with critically acclaimed camelid trainer Marty McGee Bennett. "Camelidynamics" focuses on stress free respectful training techniques for handling, showing, vetting, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02

Respectfully submitted 7/23/13 – Mitch Beauregard