

**Corrected Agenda Minutes
Agriculture Commission Meeting
Monday, April 5, 2010
Town Manager's Conference Room
909 Foxon Road
7:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Call to Order: Chairperson Clifford Potter called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Members Present: Joe DeFrancesco, Gerald Adinolfi, Ryan Van Wilgen

7:27 Al Rose Liason to the Town Council

7:39 Richard Brannigan left 7:42

AlternateMembers: Dudley Harrison, Harry Juniver

Town Planner Carol Zebb

2. Approval of Previous Months Minutes

Member Van Wilgen moved, seconded by Alternate Member Juniver to approve the minutes of March 1, 2010. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Unfinished Business

None at this time

4. New Business and Continued Business

a. Ag Comm. Brochure grant process

Chairman Potter stated that the grant process was denied. Town Planner Zebb stated that this is in the budget but with the budget meetings taken place this week, I am not sure where we will stand. Member VanWilgen stated that when we are ready, we need to re-evaluate the printer.

b. Viability state grant. Next Steps now after approval (ongoing)

Town Planner Zebb stated this is the grant for the roof. We did put all the paperwork in on our side and they have received it. We have this money but it may take 2 to 3 months. They are willing to give us 50% up front and when it is half finished they will give us 25%. Member Adinolfi stated that Larry still needs to get stuff out of the barn and then Billy and Kenny will come down to make a punch list to be able to make the building safe and then it will go out for bid.

c. Discuss featured farms in The Sound Newspaper

Chairman Potter stated that we will have little Larry be the next featured person. I have contacted the Sound but haven't heard back.

d. Potato Fest ongoing info

Chairman Potter stated that this is ongoing and they are still in the planning station. This should not affect us too much.

e. Filming of agriculture activities. Updates (ongoing)

Chairman Potter stated that this is probably going to have to be a winter project for me.

f. Possible town land rental issues, Updates (ongoing)

Alternate Dudley moved, seconded by Alternate Juniver to move item f to the end of meeting. The motion was unanimous.

g. Possible tax adjustments (farmers taxes) updates (ongoing)

Member Defrancesco stated that I went to the tax office and she handed me taxes for every farm in Town and she wanted me to figure out the burden to the Town for me to go through. I do not have time to review and I do not think it is my responsibility to come up with the percentage.

h. Tractor pull needs, info and updates (ongoing)

Chairman Potter stated that the needs are being fulfilled and we are waiting on the wood.

i. Discuss federal agriculture programs and how they apply to us

Chairman Potter stated that I need to hook up with Mr. Bozzuto. Town Planner Zebb distributed the Connecticut Agriculture Business Guide.

j. Goals for 2010. Where we are headed. What we need to do (ongoing)

Chairman Potter stated that we are on track, we have gone from 1 to 3 tractor pulls, potato fest, brochure and working on the taxes.

k. Results of meeting with school about agriculture in school system

Chairman Potter stated that Larry said he has an acre of land that the students can grow with the Rotarian club.

Member VanWilgen stated that he has submitted the green house proposal to Public Works and the Superintendent.

l. Canterbury meeting info obtained

Town Planner Zebb discussed the Canterbury workshop with 6 different Towns, stating that our Town is light years ahead of these Towns.

f. Possible town land rental issues, Updates (ongoing)

Chairman Potter stated that we have the Suffield lease. Member Defrancesco stated that we should all bring this home, read, make notes and then we should have a special meeting, bring back to the May meeting for final approval and voting.

m. Member's items to be discussed

Member Defrancesco stated that there are six quads going through Donald's land. There is a liability to the Town.

n. Visitor Comments - none

5. Executive Session: None

6. Adjournment:

Alternative Member Juniver moved, seconded by Member DeFrancesco to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.. The motion was carried unanimously.

Submitted by:

Denise Prather

Denise Prather – Recording Secretary