

**Agenda Minutes  
Agricultural Commission Special Meeting  
Monday, January 8, 2008  
Conference Room  
909 Foxon Road  
7:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Call to Order:** Elected Chairperson Clifford Potter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Clifford Potter, Michael Doody, Gerald Adinolfi, Joe DeFrancesco, Nelson Cecaelli

**Alternative Members:** Harry Juniver, Dudley Harrison

2. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Member Nelson Cecaelli moved to approve the December 3, 2007 meeting minutes, seconded by Member Michael Doody.

**3. Unfinished Business**

- a. **Continue discussing mission statement and how we will implement it**
- b. **Continue discussing commission work plan tasks**

The members of the Agency agreed that there is no need to amend the current agenda for tonight's meeting. Member Doody states that a mission statement has already been selected and that statement will be adapted.

Member Potter discusses granting of funds and Member Cecaelli states that a grant will be available in November, 2008. There is also a Farm Enhancement grant which will be available on April 30. Member DeFrancesco states that that is where Guilford received their funds. Member Doody advises the Agency to adapt Guilford's plan and Member Cecaelli refers the Agency to the existing website of North Branford for the agricultural land. Member Potter goes over the map of Guilford and Member Cecaelli states that North Branford's map is not as detailed. Member Cecaelli states he will talk to Town Planner Carol Zebb about the existing North Branford map.

Potter suggests to the Agency that the Route 22 corridor needs to be named due to lots of farmland. Member Doody suggests that the Augur farm area be a museum, and be made into a farm market atmosphere. This would be one of the goals to use for a grant application.

Member Potter also suggests a farm list data base. Member Cecarelli will research relevant grant information and obtain said information for the February, 2008 meeting. A suggested sign that the Agency would like to see posted would be on a “ready made piece of property”. Volunteers would run the museum or farm market, along with maybe even the help from the Grange.

Member Potter suggests a table be set up at the potato fest. Member Doody states that the Grant will come in and clean up the area. The grant could be up to \$50,000.00. It can be done in a “like kind” services and over one year the grant money would be used. The money would be received in February, 2009. This would be relevant to the Donald Augur property.

The agency discusses tapes which Member Potter will obtain concerning North Branford farms. These tapes were done through the Historical Society. Member Potter suggests pushing a “Connecticut Grown” sign on the homestead. 100 acres of land is currently being used by Augur. Also a suggestion would be signs placed on 22 pointing to the farms. Member Potter will contact the Town of Guilford to get a copy of their grant information. The contact person is Leslie Kane. Member Potter will also email Vincent Candelora, a state representative, for support.

#### **5. Any other items members wish to discuss**

Member Cecarelli talks about the cease and desist order concerning Diglio farm. He questions how this Agency will be notified about wetland issues concerning the farms. The Agency agrees that they will try to help out in order to promote agriculture. Member Potter suggests a member attend the meeting on Wednesday, January 9. Also Member Potter will invite a Guilford representative to our meeting and an agency member will be selected to attend their meeting. The Agency agrees that they will support what is available in order to keep agriculture. They all agree the town has to give a little.

**6. Adjournment:** There being no further business, Member Doody made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:13 p.m. Member DeFrancesco seconded this motion. All were in favor, none opposed and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debra Ann Quinn

Debra Ann Quinn – Secretary