

**Town of Boscawen
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 13th, 2022, at 6:30 PM**

Members Present: John Keegan – Chair, John Porter-Vice Chair, Gary Tillman, Roger Sanborn & Julie Fournier-Alternate

Absent-Bill Bevans, Ralph Odell & Tatyanna Wunschel-Alternate

Chair John Keegan opened the public meeting at 6:30 P.M.

Roll Call complete.

Review and Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes: Vice Chair John Porter requested one correction, line 135, add ‘...and Vice Chair Porter’ after ‘Mr. Tillman’.

Chair Keegan requested one change, line 90, strikethrough ‘...for each’.

Mr. Gary Tillman motioned to approve the 09.08.22 draft minutes as amended. Seconded by Vice Chair Porter. All in favor. None opposed.

Financial Report:

Mr. Tillman motioned to approve the Financial Report through 10.13.22 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Roger Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.

Old Business:

- *Volunteer to track tasks for October:* Ms. Julie Fournier will track Commissioners Tasks for October.
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- *Status of Penacook Sign:* Vice Chair Porter started working on the Penacook sign. They scrapped the loose paint and primed the green. Tomorrow they will put on the final lettering coat and another green coat, weather permitting. The issue was the engraved letters were absorbing water and the two-piece sign had a joint where water seeped in. Vice Chair Porter suggested annual maintenance for each sign.
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- *Picture Survey Results:* Chair Keegan presented the picture survey for discussion. The Commissioners decided on final pictures for the Master Plan will include the two photos with a 50/50 vote split.
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- *Community Garden Update Composting and Committee Formation:* Chair Keegan provided the update. The composting class was cancelled due to lack of interest. Mr. Jeff Abbe and Selectwoman Lorrie Carey are working on the committee job descriptions. No further discussion.
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- *Invasive Species Coalition Proposal:* Chair Keegan will be talking to the Conservation Commission at their upcoming meeting. He spoke with Mr. Abbe and Mr. Alan Hardy about collaborating by forming an Invasive Species Coalition. Public Works Director Dean Hollins is

interested in collaborating and has \$3,000 earmarked in his annual budget for invasive control. Discussion followed.

- **Mr. Sanborn motioned to approve the Invasive Species Coalition proposal. Seconded by Vice Chair Porter. All in favor. None opposed.**
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- Harvest Festival: Vice Chair Porter said Deputy PCD Director O'Brien will be among those planning the Harvest Festival for 2023 based on how the movie night goes this year. No further discussion.
- Movie Night 2022: Chair Keegan said the movie night will be the 14th @6pm. Mr. Tillman reported the weather shouldn't be a concern. Chair Keegan may not be in attendance. Mr. Tillman and Vice Chair Porter will set up the table around 5pm. No further discussion.
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- Other: Vice Chair Porter had previously reported the new section of the bike trail wouldn't be completed this year. However, it is now completed after the leaders revised their budget and decided to take advantage of the equipment and volunteers at hand.

New Business:

- 2023 Meeting dates and Times: The Commissioners discussed 2023 proposed meeting dates and times and agreed to change the meeting dates to Tuesday at 6:30pm. Chair Keegan noted there will need to be a Public Hearing to make the change official because the current day (Thursday) is specified in the By Laws.
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- Peoples Garden Initiative: (See Market Bulletin handout) Chair Keegan said this initiative is attempting to raise the profile of community gardens around the Country. There are also opportunities for more technical assistance. Chair Keegan suggested reviewing the proposal and discussing it next month. Ms. Fournier will meet with Mr. Abbe and Chair Keegan prior to the November meeting.
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- Other: Chair Keegan reported Ms. Easler as requested the Commission's budget request for 2023. He suggested maintaining the current budget and working on a strategy for more flexibility in the use of the garden fees. Mr. Tillman suggested a proposal to have that money be available for costs such as replacing the 'Welcome to Boscawen' signs. Vice Chair Porter suggested putting it into a Capital Fund that can roll over with a plan for use in the sign project. Discussion ensued.

Tasks for October:

- Ms. Fournier will talk to Mr. Abbe and Chair Keegan about the Peoples Garden Initiative
- Chair Keegan talk with Conservation Commission next week.
- Review the Peoples Garden Initiative for discussion in November.
- Mr. Tillman and Vice Chair Porter will set up the table at Movie night.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 10th, 2022 @ 6:30 PM

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Tillman. Seconded by Mr. Sanborn. All in favor. None opposed.

Respectfully submitted, Hannah Gardner