

**Town of Boscawen**  
**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**  
**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:30 PM**

**Members Present:** John Keegan – Chair, John Porter – Vice Chair, Gary Tillman, Ralph Odell, Julie Fournier – Alternate & Bill Bevans – Ex-Officio

**Excused:** Roger Sanborn

Chair John Keegan opened the public meeting at 6:31 p.m. and completed roll call.

**Minutes:**

Chair Keegan requested one change to Line 75 – Change “Community Garden growing challenge” to “Community Garden growing competition”.

**Mr. Tillman motioned to approve the 11/14/23 draft minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Odell. All in favor. None opposed.**

**Financial Report:**

**Mr. Tillman motioned to approve the Financial Report through 12/12/23 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Odell. All in favor. None opposed.**

**Old Business:**

*Discussion of 2024 Potential Projects:* Chair Keegan said the list compiled at the prior meeting was a great starting point. Under “recognizing local agriculture” he spoke about a new horse farm on Corn Hill Road. He suggested adding the topic of trying to identify different residents who are doing interesting things in agriculture to each monthly meeting. This could also be a great way to recruit some new members or to amplify the vision of what’s going on in agriculture in town.

**Chair Porter motioned to invite the owners of the horse farm on Corn Hill Road to the January meeting. Seconded by Mr. Tillman. All in favor. None opposed.**

Vice Chair Porter wanted to further discuss the topic of “giving local restaurants recognition for using local food”. He thought about this more after the last meeting and understands this could be difficult given most places that use local food can only do so seasonally. He suggested the recognition piece say, “We buy produce locally in season”. This recognition piece would need to be something easy to install in a window or door. This could be an opportunity to develop a logo for the AgComm. Discussion ensued. Mr. Tillman suggested using the Town’s Website and Facebook pages to request help from talented residents. Chair Keegan will reach out to Mrs. Adele Sanborn for any artistic contacts she may have. Chair Keegan asked how to describe what they’re trying to accomplish with this logo. Mr. Tillman said they would be looking for a volunteer with artistic talent to develop a logo to represent the Agricultural Commission and agriculture in our community.

**New Business:**

*2024-2025 Proposed Meeting Dates:* Vice Chair Porter said the September meeting date had a potential conflict due to the State Primary Election. The Commissioners decided to move forward with the dates as proposed and to revisit the September meeting date when it gets closer if necessary.

*Review Town Report Draft:* Mr. Tillman said Vice Chair Porter did a great job drafting the Town Report. Changes discussed were to the Community Garden paragraph, and the Old Home Day paragraph. Vice Chair Porter will send the final draft to PCD Assistant Kara Gallagher once it's completed.

*Roundabout Sign Status:* Chair Keegan said last week the Welcome sign was run into overnight and dislodged. Both posts were broken but the sign itself is fine. Town Administrator Katie Phelps and Chair Keegan gathered up the pieces and transported them to the Public Works Department where they are now stored. Chair Keegan spoke to Public Works Director Hollins and, if all goes according to plan, DPW will purchase 2 new, treated 4 X 4's and return the sign to its home at the Roundabout as soon as possible. The Agricultural Commission will reimburse the DPW for their out-of-pocket costs. The mulch has been disturbed along the track the vehicle took through the Roundabout and some flowers were run over. On the Tremont Street side, a vehicle crossed through the Roundabout and ran over the metal post holding the DOT arrow sign. It also trailed through some flowers. The bent sign has been replaced by DOT. Ms. Fournier asked about the status of the flag at the Roundabout. Chair Keegan said the flag and lights are all being replaced. Ex-Officio Bevans said the lights were replaced last Thursday. Ms. Fournier asked if that expense came out of the AgComm's Budget. Ex-Officio Bevans said Facilities Director Gary Moore used his budget to cover the cost.

*Member Resignation:* Chair Keegan informed the Commissioners that Mr. Roger Sanborn will be resigning from the Agricultural Commission. He will be unable to continue his duties as a commissioner or attend meetings due to personal reasons.

**Other Business:**

*UNH Carsey School, Coffee, and Conversation:* Chair Keegan said this discussion was happening tomorrow December 13<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged the Commissioners to attend virtually if they could. He thought it would be an interesting conversation to listen to. Vice Chair Porter and Mr. Odell plan to register.

*Pending Tasks:*

- Chair Keegan will invite the owners of the horse farm on Corn Hill Road to the January meeting.
- Chair Keegan will reach out to Mrs. Adele Sanborn for any artistic contacts for the AgComm logo design.
- Vice Chair Porter will send the final draft of the Town Report to PCD Assistant Kara Gallagher.

**Next Meeting:** January 9, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Mr. Tillman motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Odell. All in favor. None opposed.**

*Respectfully submitted by Kara Gallagher.*