

AGRICULTURE COMMISSION MINUTES (APPROVED)

7:00 P.M August 25, 2016

Town Office Annex

1. **Call to Order:** Ron Gross, Chairman: 7:05 pm
Pledge of Allegiance
2. **Attendance:** Ron Gross, Chairman; Carlene Quinn; Marianne Halpin; Mark Henderson; Tanya Bourgoin
Members In attendance via conference call: Peter Dean
Guests: Emmet Lyman, First Selectman
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Ms Halpin made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Dean seconded the motion. Agenda was approved unanimously.
4. **Chairman's Report:**
Chairman Gross reviewed his discussion spoke the Town Clerk regarding the posting of the commission meeting on the town website.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - a) Discussion of planning and zoning's proposed regulations regarding Intensive Commercial Farm Operations which had been provided to commission members by Jim Ventres prior to this meeting.
A motion to ask P & Z for clarification on the definition of non-intensive commercial farming in their proposed regulations was made by Ms. Bourgoin. Mr. Dean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b) Discussion of the possible placement of bee hives by tenants at the CCA. Mr. Dean made a motion to ask the interested party to come to the next meeting with his plans for beekeeping at CCA. Ms. Quinn seconded.
 - c) Discussion of CCA: current state of the garden and Ag Comm's role as an advocate and liason for agricultural opportunities at the Harris property.
6. **Unfinished Business/Open Issues:**
 - a) Discussion of ways the commission can assist Ms. Thody with the completion of the Middle School garden renovations.
 - b) Mr. Henderson will present no cost ways to improve the soil of the CCA garden plots at our next meeting.
 - c) Mr. Lyman advised that the town is seeking to revise the content of its website. Mr. Henderson suggested getting a dedicated email for the commission.
7. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

The next meeting of the Agriculture will be held at the Town Office Annex on Monday Oct. 3rd, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tanya Bourgoin, Acting Secretary

