

ENFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday March 9, 2021

A Regular Virtual Meeting of the Enfield Agricultural Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante on Tuesday March 9, 2021 @ 7: 03 PM

ROLL CALL

Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present - Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Cote, Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Wyzga, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall, Commissioner Sacerdote, and Commissioner Kober.

Also present Laurie Whitten – Director Development Services and Karen Timpone – Recording Secretary

Absent – Commissioner McGuire

Chair LaPlante empowered Commissioner Kober as a voting member for this meeting.

Approval of Minutes - A motion to accept minutes of February 9, 2021 as presented was made by Commissioner Dynia and seconded on Commissioner Sacerdote – The minutes are posted on the web site - passed unanimously – 7/0/1 abstention by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall.

Public Participation – None

POCD Update Items of Concern and Importance for our Commission - No meeting as of yet. There will be one next week March 17, 2021 – Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked if it is too late to do the survey, Laurie said if it will let you take it is probably still open.

Unfinished Business -

Farms and Farmland Preservation – Laurie stated that they were requested to submit a 0% budget – anything above that they were asked to put on a wish list and she did request \$25,000 to \$30,000 for Farmland Preservation Program. Chair LaPlante sent a House Bill 6577 from Working Lands Alliance (State Properties Review Board) to all Commissioners to comment on if possible. Commissioner Dynia stated that the EAC may send a comment to the State Representative. Commissioner Vose read it and there seems to be more requirements and more steps to preserve farmland. Commissioner Kober stated that the time for public comments is past the deadline but Commissioner Cote said they can still contact the local State Representatives with concerns. Chair LaPlante encouraged the Commissioners to read it send comments to the State Reps individually. There is an email link for comments.

Identification of Farming or Potential Farming Parcels to be Preserved – Chair LaPlante was not able to look at the list as of yet. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked about the farm property (Jarmoc) on Moody Road that is constructing some greenhouses. Laurie said they are putting in an office for farm operations and a large barn behind it. The back barn building is going to IWWA next week.

Correspondence / All Commissioners & Staff –

Chair LaPlante - The Connecticut Land Conservation Council – Talks about USDA NRCS is now accepting applications for its Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) but the deadline was March 1st. EAC will check into it for next year.

Next Meeting Date – Tuesday April 13, 2021

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussion - Passed unanimously – 8/0/0

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:24 PM