

ENFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 12, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Agricultural Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante in the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 @ 7:11 PM

ROLL CALL

Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present – Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Cote, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall, Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner McGuire, Commissioner Wyzga, and Commissioner Kober

Also present: Karen Timpone - Recording secretary

Absent - Commissioner Sacerdote

Approval of Minutes - A motion to accept minutes of June 14, 2022, was made by Commissioner Cote, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – Discussion – Commissioner Kober stated that the minutes appear to be missing the documentation turned in during public participation which is the BAA report Lori Longhi referred to. Commissioner Vose had a correction on page 2 – just above correspondence it says him when it should say time. After discussion and changes noted the minutes were accepted 8/0/0.

Public Participation – None.

Correspondence – Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall found a couple of articles in the Hartford Courant to share. One was this morning regarding Farmer’s Markets and in the state of Connecticut. There is a farmer’s market in one of the 169 towns every single day of the week. In the article they visited a farmer’s market each day and wrote a blurb about it. Interesting to see the various vendors and things that they do – In East Hartford, Griffin Health comes and does vaccinations, UCONN does breast cancer awareness and surveys. The East Hartford Black caucus registers people to vote. In Plainfield they have a mobile library along regular farmer’s market products. There was also an article called the sound of silence about the decline of insects and bees. It also relates to conservation as mitigation through land preservation.

Commissioner Dynia discussed an email he got regarding a grant from DEEP for an open space and community garden grant program info session. Registration at Connecticut Land Conservation Council. Informational session is July 14th 12:30 to 2. DEEP Open Space and Community Garden Urban Green Grant Program. Deadline for the grant is September 30, 2022. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked that this information be forwarded to Nelson Tereso.

Reports of Officers Committees and Staff – None.

Unfinished Business –

ByLaws – Commissioner Kober asked that the Bylaws be posted to the EAC webpage.

New Business-

Assessors Update – It is still ongoing regarding the assessor and the procedures used. The town council will get a lawyer to do an independent study. Commissioner McGuire stated that all the farmers he spoke to that went through the appeals process were happy.

Review of the Draft POCD – There was a typo on bullet point at the top of page 41, second column which should read increase “in” number not “and” number. Commissioner Cote after reading through the draft questioned who is responsible to work on these bullet points. It says the town of Enfield but he feels that is too broad of a statement. He feels a Commission/Committee should be responsible for each part of the POCD and have meetings and updates on progress. Chair LaPlante said the previous POCD stated who was responsible for goals and strategies. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall feels there should be a bullet point for planting trees to help mitigate climate change (which should probably be under ECC). Evaluate PA-490 should not say Evaluate it should say “Encourage and promote enrollment in PA-490 to qualified land owners. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall would like to add - To help preserve an agricultural, forest, and natural resource land base in Connecticut. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked if the goals are prioritized. They are not and maybe they should be. On Pg. 28 intro Enfield’s natural features Commissioner Dynia would like to add lakes and should read forest, hills, fields, rivers, lakes, ponds, and streams. On the second column, Provide environments essential to the survival of certain species of plants and animals Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall would like to add “and mitigate the threat of climate change.” Chair LaPlante asked that the Commissioners read through this and send her suggestions.

Next Meeting Date - Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cote seconded by Commissioner Kober 8/0/0.

The meeting was adjourned @ 8:00 pm