



**MINUTES  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION  
June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**OPENING:** 7:00 p.m. Chairman Hansen opened the hybrid work session by announcing the members in attendance, date and time of the meeting.

**ATTENDANCE**

Burt Hansen, Chairman	Present
Dan Cook, Commissioner	Absent
Zach Barnett, Alternate	Present
Ron Cecchini, Commissioner	Absent
Lenita Bober, Commissioner	Absent
Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon, Commissioner	Present
Maryssa Cook-Obregon, Commissioner	Present - Zoom
Sage Fury, Alternate	Present - Zoom

**DISCUSSION – OPEN FARM DAY**

Final list of participating farms:

Blossoming Acres- Wagon Rides and tours of the Fields.

Kline View Stables, Calabrese Farms- Possible raffles, Sheep Pasture Sunflower Stand/Dwight Arnold Tobacco. Coward Farms- Opening green house to the public. Roger Bisi Farm, Firefly Fields Farm, Southwick History Museum. Solek Farms, 413 Bee/Andrew Solek – meet the cows and view tractors.

Inga Hoteling, 45 Kline Road, her idea on promoting additional business while Open Farm Day is happening by contacting EDC to get more restaurants involved for next year's Open Farm Day. As for this year's Open Farm day the AgCom will make an honorable mention to check out local restaurants while enjoying The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Open Farm Day.

Inga Hoteling next presented a list of potential in Town business that may be willing to sponsor The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Open Farm Day by making a donation with a maximum of \$200.00 and a minimum of \$50.00. Ending with her conversation on advertisement with prices for this event.

**Potential sponsors**

Scibellis Mobil	Tractor Supply
Westfield Bank	Farm Furnishings (?) at Gristmill
VCA	Southwick Florist – Burt to contact



Mason Insurance  
Southwick Insurance  
College Highway Insurance  
Whalley Computer  
Hitachi/Comark  
Southwick Power Equipment  
New England Bike

Country Colonial  
Southwoods  
IBS

Additional Issues A variety of expenditures were estimated as follows:

- Farm Trail brochure – 1,000 copies - \$400 (from regular budget by June 30)
- Tri-fold flyer - 1,000 copies - \$300 - Place at participating farms day-of, too. (Open Farm budget line item.)
- Passports – 500 on heavier stock - \$300. (Open Farm line item.) Note: If we run out, tri-fold flyers can be substituted.)
- Lawn signs – 3-color - \$6.50 each for 25 – (Open Farm line item.) Diane’s vendor.
- Parking signs - generic to just say “Parking”. Available at IBS. Possible donation?
- Safety vests for volunteers – IBS or Ocean State. Lenita and Inga have some on-hand.
- Bigger signs – 2x3’ for intersections - \$32. (Open Farm line item.) Morin Signs, Agawam. Possible donation?
- Boxes for passports at farms – 12 in-hand, need decorating. Donated by Inga Sage working on AgCom logo.
- Stickers for visitors to place on passports. \$10/package. (Open Farm line item.)
- Paid ads, to be placed depending on price, prices TBD by 5/26 (Open Farm line item.) – Republican, Southwoods, Westfield News/Pennysaver

The approximate cost is \$2,400, with the actual cost TBD. (Note: Granby CT had 13 farms and spent \$2,167.)

#### Additional media:

Commissioner Sage Fury stated that the Commission got approval for the Website and he will be working on that as an asset for Open Farm Day.

Potential restaurant sponsors/gift donors/places to send folks “for a bite” – and outreach person

Westfield River Brewery - Inga	Congamond Pizza/BBQ - Tammy
Sunflower Café - Tammy	Roma (buys from local farmers) - Zach
Crepes Tea House - Inga	Rail Trail Ale - Inga
Daily Grind - Sage	Southwick Inn - Inga
Tuckers - Inga	Kettle Bread - Zach

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The Launch - Burt  
Reds Café - Inga  
Summer House - Inga  
Notch - Inga  
Moolicious - Inga  
Village Pizza - Inga  
Subway - Inga  
Blossoming Acres  
King Yen  
Pasticeria

Murphy's  
Bar Shop - Inga  
Prime Steak  
Dunkin'  
McDonald's  
Zantos  
Doc's Place (Edgewood)  
Hash House - Tammy Main Moon  
Millie's - Burt  
Gristmill Café - Inga

Commissioner Zach Barnett will contact Big Y for a potential gifts card(s).  
Ms. Hoteling will reach out to EDC to inquire if they can help with promotion/signs at Ironman, motocross, etc, and/or promo Open Farm Day on their new website.

#### Other Business

Chairmen Burt Hansen stated that per the Select Board the Agricultural Commission got the go ahead as is in terms to their membership. Having 7 Commissioners and 5 alternates.

Commissioner Maryssa Cook-Obregon shared that the sofinowski / Community Garden signs and headwear have been given to the DPW for placement and should be up shortly.  
Also, the Master Plan Committee update. There will be a meeting Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. 5-7

As there was no further business to discuss, Chairman Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 PM. Alternate Commissioner Fury seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Commissioner Fury made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. Chairman Hansen seconded the motion. The roll call was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cynthia Barton, Secretary

cc:  
Select Board  
Town Clerk



Burt Hansen, Chairman

Maryssa Cook-Obregon, Commissioner

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Dan Cook, Commissioner

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Ron Cecchini, Commissioner

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Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon, Commissioner

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Lenita Bober, Commissioner

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Zach Barnett, Alternate

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Sage Fury, Alternate

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Date