

**MINUTES
AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE
REMOTE PARTICIPATION
February 10, 2021**

OPENING: The remote Zoom meeting is being held in pursuant to the Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place.

ATTENDANCE

Burt Hansen, Chairman	Absent
Maryssa Cook-Obregon, Vice Chairman	Present
Dennis Clark, Commissioner	Present
Dan Cook, Commissioner	Present
Zach Barnett, Commissioner	Present
Ron Cecchini, Commissioner	Present
Brett Colson, Commissioner	Present
Lenita Bober, Commissioner	Absent
Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon, Commissioner	Present
Diana Flynn, Alternate Commissioner	Absent

7:00 pm: Vice Chairman Maryssa Cook-Obregon opened the meeting announced all members in attendance, that the meeting was being recorded, and noted the regulations associated with a remote meeting.

MINUTES

Vice Chairman Cook-Obregon made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/13/21. Commissioner Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows

Maryssa Cook-Obregon – yes	Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon – yes
Dennis Clark – yes	Dan Cook – yes
Zach Barnett – yes	Ron Cecchini – yes

OLD BUSINESS

Right to Farm Signs Vice Chairman Cook-Obregon stated that the signs are on hold due to a medical issue by the manufacturer. The estimated date for receiving the signs is mid March.

Facebook Page Commissioners Ciak-Bissaillon and Barnett are working on the Facebook page. Pictures of local business are being updated. Farming pictures will be included in the spring growing season.

58 7 64 Tannery Road Commissioner Cook stated that he would initiate a conversation with the property owner on Tannery Road. Vice Chairman Cook-Obregon will forward an informational brochure from APR on program guideline.

Farm Brochure

Prifti Property Vice Chairman Cook-Obregon stated that Barbara Hopson, APR, did contact the owners of the property to discuss preservation. The owners did appear to be interested in processing the application for the land preservation.

APR Signs Some of the signs have been installed on farms in Southwick. There could be a potential for other farms such as Meadowview or Brzoska Pumpkin Farm to also post the signs.

Kellogg There has been interest on this 9 acre parcel for a residential dwelling. The purchase is dependent upon the cost of installing a bridge to cross the brook, and a determination on the extent of the wetlands by the Conservation Commission.

Black Rabbit Farm The Black Rabbit Farm is no longer and is currently for sale inclusive of the brewing equipment.

Community Garden The Commissioners reviewed the available supply budget. Commissioner Cook will purchase metal poles for the fencing around the garden, and supplies to reconstruct the gate. The plot rental applications will need to be revised for the 2021 growing season for the Facebook page and the Town website. Commissioner Ciak-Bissaillon stated that the Library will start a kick off program on April 1st for tips on gardening. Follow up programs will also be held in May through July.

As there was no further business to discuss, Vice Chairman Cook-Obregon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Commissioner Ciak-Bissaillon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Maryssa Cook-Obregon – yes

Dennis Clark – yes

Zach Barnett – yes

Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon – yes

Dan Cook – yes

Ron Cecchini – yes

The next meeting of the Agricultural Commission is scheduled for March 10, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Nilsson

cc:

Select Board
Town Clerk

Bert Hansen, Chairman

Maryssa Cook-Obregon, Vice Chairman

Dennis Clark, Commissioner

Dan Cook, Commissioner

Zach Barnett, Commissioner

Tammy Clark-Bissaillon, Commissioner

Ron Cecchini, Commissioner

Brett Colson, Commissioner

Lenita Bober, Commissioner

Diana Flynn, Alternate Commissioner

Date