

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Easton Agricultural Commission**

**June 10, 2020 7:45 p.m.**

**Held Virtually Via Zoom Video Conference Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89548750846?pwd=anROL0lRU2YydDEyRGQ4MIRITjNYZz09>

Meeting ID: 895 4875 0846

**In attendance** Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Irv Silverman, Denise Hebner, Victor Alfandre, Lori Cochran Dougall

**Absent** Matt Oricchio, Sage Rega

**I: Call to Order** – 7:48 p.m.

**II: Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting** – Lori Cochran Dougall made a motion, and Victor Alfandre 2nd to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

**III: Public Comment** - Jeff of South Park Advisory Committee to hear farming options for town owned South Park property.

**VI: Updates & Reports**

- Victor Alfandre represented Ag Com at recent South Park Advisory meeting and recommended 1/3 buffer for trout, 1/3 for farmer profit and 1/3 town profit. Acres available for farming ranges given whether a sale to the Aspetuck Land Trust materializes. Victor Alfandre will develop a proposal for farming of hops with introductions to hop farmers by Lori Cochran Dougall. Victor will deliver proposal at our next to Ag Com meeting. Jeff of the South Park Advisory Committee will also pursue other solutions including bee apiary.
- Discussed and took action to continue updates to the Ag Commission website to streamline the message. Denise Hebner reconfigured home page.
- Discussed the need to get more farms listed on the Easton section of the Connecticut tourism site and on the CT Grown and CT Department of AG site. Agreed farms need to be registered to qualify. Jean Stetz-Puchalski working with farms to include statewide listing opportunities, working with Michelle Falcone our Easton CT Tourism rep, Town Planner, and Easton Farm Map project to make this happen.
- Discussed the 175th founding of Easton and Easton 175 committee activities. Agreed to add the farming history as part of a timeline posted to the Easton175 site and write article on Easton's oldest Farm Sherwood which dates back to 1713.
- Discussed Easton Agricultural Land Preservation Fund and the need to have the Agriculture Commission added as an approving body. Jean to discuss the proposal with the Conservation Commission and Town. Discussed the benefit of having a strategic plan for the preservation of farmland in Easton as a guide to decision making around funding from the land preservation fund. All Commission members will research and bring working draft to next meeting.
- Discussed farming project on Town land: SSES plot A + B. Farmer has planted crops and created a section dedicated to a pollinator pathway ecotype founders plot to support pollinator and crop health.

**V: Correspondence**

**VI: New Business**

**VII: Adjournment** Irv Silverman made the motion to Denise Hebner 2nd to adjourn meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Denise Hebner *Denise Hebner*



INSTR # M2020000499  
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CHRISTINE HALLORAN  
TOWN CLERK EASTON CT