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TOWN CLERK EASTON CT

Minutes

Meeting of the Easton Agricultural Commission October 11, 2017 -7:30 p.m. Town Hall-Meeting Room A

AGRICULTURAL

COMMISSION

FOR THE TOWN

OF EASTON

CONNECTICUT

Commission

Members

Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Chair

Victor Alfandre, Recording Secretary

Laurel Fedor

Sal Gilbertie

Irv Silverman

Alternates:

Lori Cochran Dougall

Ray Longo

In attendance: Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Victor Alfandre, Lori Cochran-Dougall

Absent: Laurel Fedor, Irv Silverman, Sal Gilbertie, Ray Longo

Public: None

I: Call to Order: 7:35pm

II: Minutes: Motion to approve by Lori Cochran Dougall, 2nd by Victor Alfandre. Unanimously

accepted.

III: Updates & Reports:

- Shared recent positive press for Ag. In Easton: Annual Farm Tour a big success; Patti Popp named Farmer of the Year by the Farmer's Almanac; Dairy opening at Shaggy Coos Farm.
- Debriefed 10/2 P&Z meeting: several commission members attended. Farmer questions about acreage limitations addressed. Suggestion that all current farmers grandfathered as non-conforming. Some questions still remain re: succession and residency. Ag. Com. present to support and offer feedback to P&Z to show how what they are writing might be challenged/supported in advance of the draft review at town meeting. Requested a copy of the final draft.
- Discussed clarifying language in SSES lease concerning farmer reporting to Commission.
- Discussed planning possible on-site Commission meetings at local farms. Invite sent to farmers; aligned with meeting schedule as posted.

Correspondence:

 Speckled Rooster Farm reached out as they want to propose forming an Ag. Commission in Westport.

IV New Business:

- Lori Cochran Dougall will hold December meeting and Holiday party. Add alternate location to December agenda for public posting.
- Discussed creating an advisory council of farmers to increase opportunities for farmer input.
- Path exists for Easton to be named Christmas Tree Capital of CT. Lori Cochran Dougall
 working on this with Ag Com support. Thank you to Lori and her Family for supporting
 Easton Agriculture in this way. Need farmer participation in process.

V Public Comment:

none

Adjournment: 8:11pm

Minutes submitted by Victor Alfandre, Recording Secretary Victor Alfandre

Agricultural Commission for the Town of Easton 225 Center Road Easton, Connecticut 06612