Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Easton Agricultural Commission Wednesday, January 11, 2023 – 7:45 PM Easton Library Community Room

In attendance Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Matt Oricchio, Jacob Conover Absent: Amy Wolfcale, Lori Cochran Dougall, Victor Alfandre, Denise Hebner

- 1. Meeting called to order 7:53 PM on January 11, 2022.
- 2. No previous minutes from the previous meeting.
- 3. No public comment
- 4. Meeting dates set for 2023, including January of 2024: February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, Summer recess for July and August, September 13, October 11, November 8, December 13, January 10, 2024. Jean Stetz-Puchalski moves to accept the meeting dates. Jacob Conover seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- 5. Succession on Commission: Jean Stetz-Puchalski rolls off on January 31, 2023. Jean moves to nominate Matthew Oricchio as Chair of the Agricultural Commission effective January 12, 2023. Jacob Conover seconds. Motion passes unanimously. New email address eastonagcommission@gmail.com. Matt and Jake thanked Jean for her years of service to the Town and for her leadership of the Ag Commission, including the formation of the Commission itself, passage of the right to farm ordinance, establishing farming on Town land projects, farmland preservation projects and funding to Easton Farmers, and her commitment to promoting agriculture across town, state, and federal organizations. Jean thanked the team, and all parties involved through the years, for commitment to supporting farmland preservation and supporting local agriculture.
- 6. Jean Stetz-Puchalski moves to recommends to the BOS that Jacob Conover move into the Jean's member position based on his experience and attendance record. Matt seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- 7. Jean Stetz-Puchalski moves to nominate Denise Hebner as recording secretary of the Agricultural Commission. Jacob Conover seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- 8. Correspondence: Taylor Acres request for Ag Com support for Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry Grant. Jean Stetz-Puchalski moves to support Taylor Acres Farm and provide a letter of support stating that our commission is committed to working with Taylor Acres in this endeavor. This will be an opportunity to collaborate on the coordination and implementation of the water and land-based conservation practices to the benefit of farms that might not otherwise have access to these resources. Additionally, this project highlights and addresses the support for historically underserved farmers, including but not limited Veteran farmers in Easton and across the state. Jacob Conover seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- 9. Town Hall poster project with QR code tabled until February meeting.
- 6. No new business.
- 7. Meeting adjournment: Jean Stetz-Puchalski moves to adjourn meeting at 9:24 PM.

Submitted by: Submitted by: Denise Hebner, Recording Secretary Denise Hebner

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