

## **MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

**November 14, 2012**

### **Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by vice chairman Bob McCabe. Present were Cyndi Warhola, Bess Parks, Bob McCabe, Allen Lindahl.

New Business: John and Bob color coded active and small farms and are presenting it the at next Master Plan meeting. Per the Ag Commissions survey agriculture is still active in Merrimack.

Treasurer's report – Bess had no new figures to present at this time.

Bob McCabe talked about a spring planting at the Community Garden in 2013. There is an available guide entitled (Gardening in New England) available from the UNH Hillsborough Extension Service in Goffstown, NH.

Incidentals: As of today, the Farm Bill has not renewed. The Farm income loss program will expire. Donations for the Merrimack, NH Silver Saddles 4H club scholarship fund was submitted to the Town Finance Department November 6, 2012. John Lastowka & Bob McCabe are documenting local Merrimack farms for the Master Plan Committee.

Bob McCabe talked about the Community Gardens, and same schedules from 2012 will apply to 2013. Gardeners are pleased with the new water system installed by the Ag Commission in 2012.

Bess Parks spoke about the need for a shed storing Farmers Market set-up and supplies for the weekly Farmers Market. The Ag Commission is looking into the possibility of this idea. We would need future research and permission from the owners to move forward with this idea.

We are in need of a 2013 market manager. Bess suggested advertising for a market manager. Cindy mentioned, we will need help with handling all aspects of advertising and mailings. More volunteers are definitely needed for the Farmers Market and Community Garden.

Commission members are needed to fill vendor application envelopes in January

Allen moved to adjourn, Bess seconded, all agreed. Meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: January 9, 2013

**Joy Currier**