

MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

July 9, 2014

Chairman Bob McCabe called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Present were Bob McCabe, Cindy Warhola, Eber Currier, and Bess Parks.

- a) **Farmer's Market Update:** Today's Market was held at the Tractor Supply parking lot. There were 14 vendors and over 400 people in attendance. The lobster vendor sold out. Starting next week, July 16, 2014, the Market will be moving to the Vault Motor Storage site at 526 D. W. Highway in Merrimack. There will be press releases in the Telegraph and Merrimack Journal each week and Cindy will put something on Facebook. The signs will be moved and a sign will be left at the Tractor Supply lot letting people know about the new location. Any new vendors wanting to sign up can either call Bob at 759-2737 or come to our next meeting for additional information, or e-mail him at Merrimackfarmersmarket@gmail.com. Bob will be our Market Aide (with some assistance) this year. Last week the tent was ruined by the rain storm so Cindy moved to spend \$250 for a new tent and three locks, Bess seconded. Vote was 4-0-0.
- b) **Community Garden Update:** There was only one call this week about fencing. We think there is a problem with woodchucks. The vegetables are growing well. The white Shasta daisies that Bob planted to decorate the garden site did not come up but he'll try again next year.
- c) **UNH Extension Classes:** There will be a meeting in Boscowan on July 15, 2014 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. It will be about insects, plants, and weeds. There will be a Tree Fruit Twilight meeting on July 16, 2014 at the Woodman Horticultural Research Farm in Durham. The Spider Web Gardens in Tuftonboro will be hosting a Vegetable Growers' twilight meeting on July 22, 2014. July 23, 2014 the Barmett Hill Vineyard will host a vineyard walk and twilight meeting in Walpole. And, on July 24, 2014 there will be a session on vegetable crops in North Sutton. Again, information about farming can be obtained at answers@unh.edu. Anyone one interested in becoming a Master Gardener can get more information at Marcy.Stanton@unh.edu. The course runs 13 weeks for a cost of \$250.00. There are scholarships available.
- d) **Bug Alert:** Ash Borer is close by – reports of them in Methuen, MA. Very serious problem that could take all of the trees down and they have not found the right solution for dealing with it.
- e) **Summer Horse Care:** Bess has a list of necessary things to do to keep your horses more comfortable in this hot weather: they need 10 gallons of water a day, salt block, Electrolites, sprays, hose off sweat as it attracts flies and they can get heat exhaustion after 90 degrees. Cold water on the head helps. They need to be dewormed and have hoof dressing applied.

You need to watch for mold on their feed and check for ticks. Must have shots for E.W. Tetanus, West Nile, Rabies, and Triple E.

- f) **Treasurer's Report:** Bess Parks related the current Treasurer's to us, reporting a total of \$2,109.26 for the Community Garden, a total of \$2, 403.79 for the Farmer's Market, making a total of \$4,513.05 as of June 30, 2014.
- g) Cindy Warhola moved to accept the draft minutes of June 11, 2014, Bess Parks seconded. Vote was 4-0-0.

Cindy moved to adjourn, Bess seconded. Vote was 4-0-0. Adjourned at 7:56p.m. Next meeting will be August 13, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Currier (acting Secretary)