

MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes

May 11, 2016

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob McCabe at 7:10 p.m. Present were Ron Miner the third, Don Miner, Eber Currier, and Bess Parks.

New Business:

- (a) Pre interview with possible alternate member –not present.
- (b) Summer Farmer's Market update: More help is needed on Wednesdays from 3 to 6p.m., starting June 15. Bob made a plea for this on this televised meeting.
- (c) Winter Farmer's Market: Due to a scheduled meeting at the Senior Center, the market was held outside, which meant people who didn't know about it stopped by so Don may have it outside again.
- (d) Community Garden update: Ron Miner and Tom and Ann Hanlon helped a lot in set-up of gardens this year. Water set-up coming soon. There are 60 plots taken so far.
- (e) Annual Review: Bob McCabe and Ron Miner will be at the Town Council on June 9, 2016 to present this report and answer any questions the Council might have.
- (f) Library Project: Bob McCabe and Loretta Jackson will be setting up the display at the library in May concerning pictures and information about the Agricultural Commission.
- (g) UNH extension classes: Lots of very informative classes this month and next. Such as Bee keeping up in Alston, drip irrigation at Brookdale on June 3 at 5:30 p.m., a vegetable session at LaVoie's Farm in Hollis on the 7th. More info can be found at <http://extension.unh.edu/Agriculture> .
- (h) Bug Alert: Ticks are heavy this year. Make sure everyone checks all over their body after being in wooded or brushy areas.
- (i) Horse Sense: Bess's report for this month is about horse poop. It is mostly water, it decomposes very quickly and it is very good for the soil!
- (j) New ideas on promoting educational programs or scholarships: The Commission is working on plans for developing a scholarship for Merrimack students who wish to go on for education in agriculture.
- (k) Treasurer's report: No numbers in yet.

Approved: June 8, 2016

(I) Review draft minutes from April 13, 2016: Bess Parks moved to accept, Don seconded. Vote was 5-0-0.

Comments from Commissioners: Eber said his apples are in bloom – no peaches this year. Conservation Commission gave away seedlings at Eber's barn.

Don Miner moved to adjourn, Bess Parks seconded. Next meeting June 8, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Currier