

**MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**April 15, 2015**

Chairman Bob McCabe called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Members present were Bob McCabe, Don Miner, Eber Currier, and Bess Parks.

No comments from Press or Public.

New Business:

- a) **Farmer's Market Update:** New posters and signs are still being worked on. Several vendors are already signed on: John Drake, the Bee man, the plant lady from New Ipswich with veggies, as well as our usual vendors. Vault Motor Storage is looking forward to having the Farmer's Market back at their place for the coming season. There is an x plug at VMS which will also provide WIFI if needed. Deadline for sign-up for Market space is June 16, 2015. The Market hours this year are from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., starting on June 17<sup>th</sup> and every Wednesday until Oct. 14, 2015.
- b) **Community Garden Update:** There are 16 plots left. It is too wet to rototill yet. As soon as that is done then the stakes can be put in so people can start planning which plants to plant and where to place them.
- c) The old signs need to be repainted with new time and hours and the new address change. The big one at the landfill is seen by many and so needs to be updated whenever a change occurs.
- d) **Update on Kinder Morgan Project:** You can go online to [nh.awareness.org](http://nh.awareness.org) to find information about this subject. The Town website also has latest findings about what we should do to keep informed and how to participate in a survey to send to Ferc. The Town Council is being very involved and hopes we can avoid the pipeline from being built at all. Many Merrimack citizens are working hard to keep abreast of any new happenings and doing all they can to help.
- e) **UNH Extension Classes:** There are many classes held through April on grapes, piglets, Chickens, Bee hives, pest management. As always you can go online at [extension.unh.edu](http://extension.unh.edu) to get a complete list of these classes – or call Bob McCabe at 759-2737.
- f) **Bug Alert:** The Green Emerald Ash Borer is on the move again, keep watch on your Ash Trees. Ticks are rampant again also – check yourself carefully every day you've been in the woods. They look like minute little red spiders. When the Forsythia is in bloom, it is time to put down pre-emergence crab grass control on your lawn.

- g) **Spring Horse Care:** Horse Trailer Tune-Up. Service the trailer every 12 months, check the air pressure on tires – spare also, lights, wiring problems. Best to wheel the trailer out and clean it thoroughly and then wheel it back in. Three or four times a year put out mats and clean thoroughly, dry thoroughly, and then put them back in. W-D 40 should be used also on metal parts in the fall.
- h) **Treasurer's Report:** As of March 31, 2015 Farmer's Market has \$2,252.84, Community Garden has \$2,049.52, making a total of \$4,302.36. Bess moved to give Bob \$17.00 for reimbursement of postage and materials, Don Miner seconded. Vote was 4-0-0.
- i) **Minutes:** Minutes of March 11, 2015 were read and accepted. Eber moved to accept, Bess seconded. Vote was 3-0-0. Don Miner was not a member last month.

Comments from the Commission: Eber announced that the Conservation Commission is having their annual seedling give-away to Merrimack residents on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Currier Orchards barn from 9 a.m. to noontime.

Bob McCabe will be going to the Town Council meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 to ask their acceptance of the Agricultural Commission's By-Laws.

Bess Parks moved to adjourn, Eber seconded. Vote was 4-0-0. Adjourned at 8 p.m. Next meeting will be on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Currier (Acting secretary)