

## MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

### Minutes for June 10, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Bob McCabe. Present were Bob McCabe, Eber Currier, Bess Parks, and Don Miner. Also present were Shaleaigh Nelson and her Mom. Shaleaigh would like to help the Agricultural Commission out with the Farmer's Market while earning more hours toward the highest Gold Award in Girl Scouting. Bess Parks moved to accept Shaleaigh for assistance with the Farmer's Market Face Book Page and an aide to Bob in assisting the vendors every Wednesday. Don Miner seconded. Vote was 4-0-0.

- a) **Farmer's Market:** The Market is ready to open on June 17, 2015 – one week from today. Presently there are 25 vendors – should be two or three more in by the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- b) **Community Garden:** All plots are taken – Bob might be able to clear one or two more if needed. Veteran's would like to have a flag flying over the Garden – Bob will be speaking at the Town Council meeting tomorrow evening so will bring up this subject with them.
- c) **4-H news:** Elyse Morano is the N.H. judge at the National horse show in Kentucky this year.
- d) **Updated signs for Farmer's Market:** The signs for the Farmer's Market have been restored and updated. Thanks to Bess Parks for attention and time on this project.
- e) **Update on Kinder Morgan project:** A letter was read from Rob Johnson, head of the N.H. Farm Bureau, to Kinder Morgan requesting a meeting at the State Farm Bureau in Concord with all the farmer's affected by the Pipeline coming through our state. A meeting in late June or early July was suggested. Rob will keep us posted so we can let all the farmer's around us know and attend to give their suggestions and opinions. In the meantime, many of us will let Rob know our thoughts on this. Our Town Council members are keeping us up to date on the town web site on any new information they have.
- f) **Annual review by Town Council:** Bob McCabe will be in attendance at the next Town Council tomorrow night to report on all the things the Agricultural Commission have been doing this year.
- g) **Updated Merrimack Farm list:** Eber brought in an updated list so we can keep in touch with them.
- h) **UNH Extension classes:** Again, the Extension Service is offering many classes through June - field tours of vegetables up in Durham, canning and preserving the safe way up in Canterbury, Strawberries at Parlee Farms, Bees in July in Alstead. You can go on-line at [extension.unh.edu](http://extension.unh.edu) to get a complete list of all their classes – or call Bob McCabe at 759-2737.
- i) **Bug alert:** Ticks is the biggest worry right now. Wear long pants, long sleeves, pull your socks up over your pant legs and check for ticks every day.
- j) **Horse Sense:** Safety at Horse Shows – all your tack supplies – halter, lead rope, belts, bridle need to be strong. Check for weakness, cracks – be sure you buy good strong supplies and keep them cleaned and oiled to prevent accidents. This info came from the University of Tennessee Extension Service.
- k) **Treasurer's report:** As of May 31, 2015 we have \$2761.72 in the Farmer's Market and \$2,728.66 in

the Community Garden, making a total of \$5,490.38.

- I) **Minutes:** Review draft minutes from June 10, 2015. Bess moved to accept and Don seconded. Vote was 4-0-0.

No comments from the press or public.

Bob said he did get some balloons from the party store to float at the Farmer's Market on Opening Day. Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m. Next meeting on July 8, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Currier (acting secretary)