

**MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**November 11, 2015**

Bob McCabe called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Bob McCabe, Eber Currier, Bess Parks, Amanda Yonkin, and Don Miner.

- (a) **Farmer's Market update:** Bob will get information and applications to all of the vendors by first of December. Karen has been working on a 4 x 8 sign. Back is empty so maybe she can get another message on that side, such as Buy and Eat local. The summer Market starts on June 14, 2016.
- (b) **Winter Market:** Don and Bob have talked to Eileen Cabanel and Paul McCali and Steve Dembow about the lease for the Senior Center on Thursday afternoons, and Don and Bob McCabe will meet with The Council on the 19th. The Winter Market will be held on the right hand side of the Senior Meeting Room. The sign guy should be able to make up 4 signs for \$120. We can put signs up at the library plus the ones at the Transfer station. Several of the present vendors are glad to hear the winter market is coming to fruition. There will be no winter market on bad snow days.
- (c) **Community Garden update:** The irrigation box is cracked and may need to be replaced by next spring. For now, the garden is all set until spring thanks to Bob and a couple of hard working ladies. Bob has sent out 5 letters with penalties for those who did not clean out their own plots.
- (d) **UNH Extension classes:** several classes going on this November. Soil Workshop in Campton, one in Loudon on Nov. 12, one on chainsaws on the 14th, one on local products on the 15th, one at LaBel's on the 17th, Water Protection and climate in North Woodstock on the 18th and 19th. Then in December there is a winter meeting on wetlands, buffers on the 3rd, and a Master Gardener's session in Boscowan on the 7th, and a Botany Course in Concord on the 11th. Again, if you need more information on any of these, you can go on line at [extension.unh.edu](http://extension.unh.edu) or call Bob at 759-2737.
- (e) **Bug alert:** Wood ticks are still present in the environment especially on sunny days and lots of lady bugs are looking for a warm house to over winter in.
- (f) **Update on Kinder Morgan project:** They were surveying under the power lines the day after our last meeting - right next door to Don's Farm. They told Don Eversource had given them permission to do that. They will be filing with Ferc on November 20th. There should be more news at that time.
- (g) **Horse Sense:** Bess read some information about the Horse Council. This Council keeps communication between the state and horse people. Membership fees pays them for keeping State legislature aware of horse people's concerns. Horse people need to post signs about liabilities. You can find helpful information by going to [N.H.Horse Council.org](http://N.H.HorseCouncil.org). Trails are listed.
- (h) **Treasurer's Report:** No report available right now.

- (i) **Update on Kentucky trip and speech in progress - Elyse Morano:** Elyse was unable to make it here tonight but she was in Kentucky for the Horse show along with 56 other N.H. residents. The money Agricultural Commission agreed to donate money to help defray the cost of her travel to Kentucky. Bob will talk to Jolee Chase of the 4-H Youth Development about this.
- (j) **Minutes:** review draft minutes from October 14, 2015. Bess moved to accept with two changes, Don seconded. Amanda abstained as she hadn't been sworn in as of that meeting. Vote was 4-0-0.

**Commissioner's comments:** Eber had been to an all-day meeting for fruit growers. The Brown Marmorated stinkbug is in New Hampshire. There are workshops coming in January of 2016 by the UNH for using Quickbooks for farmer's and on January 22nd at the Center of N.H. in Manchester a session for N.H. Women and the Farm, sponsored by Made in N.H., and another in Lancaster on Pricing for Profit.

Next meeting will be on December 9, 2015.

Don moved to adjourn, Bess seconded. Vote was 5-0-0. Adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Currier