

MERRIMACK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

MINUTES FOR July 13, 2016

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

New Business:

- a) **Summer Farmer's Market update:** There were 14 vendors with sweet corn and vegetables. It was extremely hot but everyone looking forward to next week when there should be more fresh local produce available.
- b) **Community Garden update:** Potato Bugs are rampant – please pick them up. Squash Borer will be doing some damage also so watch out for them and pick them off. Water and pick your weeds and should have tomatoes in two weeks!
- c) **Further discussion of 4-H camp:** On September 11, 2016, there will be bidders for animal purchases at the Fairgrounds in New Boston for Lamb, Beef, and Goat meat. Mary Davis from UNH will be contact person for Sponsor forms.
- d) **UNH Extension classes:** Information on these classes can be obtained at <http://extension.unh.edu/Agriculture> or by calling Bob McCabe at 759-2737.
- e) **Bug Alert:** Quite a few around now – such as Horse Flies, Green Heads, Potato Bugs, Japanese Beetles, Hemlock Scale. Ticks are dwindling due to the summer drought.
- f) **Horse Sense:** Lyme Disease has been reported. Watch out for lameness, joint problems, liver damage, organ problems. Save tick in plastic bag to be tested – horses can be treated with the same medicine that doctors give to people. However, ticks can cause two or three other diseases than Lyme.
- g) **Treasurer's Report:** As of 6-30-16: Farmer's Market has \$6,184.18, Community Garden has \$3,462.32, making a total of \$9,646.50. The Winter Market has \$1,227.50.
- h) **Minutes:** Review draft minutes from June 8, 2016. Bess moved to accept, Ron Miner III seconded. Vote was 5-0-0

Comments from Commissioners: Bob needs \$300 for more lawn signs. Don Miner appropriated it, Ron Miner seconded. Vote was 5-0-0. Don Miner resigned as a member of the N.H. Farmer's Market Association. Bob McCabe, Paul Drone, and Al Swenson went to meeting at Lavoie's Farm in Hollis.

Next meeting will be Aug. 10, 2016.

Bess moved to adjourn, Don seconded. Vote was 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Currier (acting Secretary)