

MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2021

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bob McCabe at 7:00 pm.

Present: Paul Drone, Bess Parks

Absent: Ron Miner III

Comments from the Press or Public

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. FARMER'S MARKET 2021: Applications are being received for the upcoming market opening June 9, 2021. The market will be held at Vault Storage, Daniel Webster Highway North in Merrimack. Bob can be contacted at (bobmaccabe254@gmail.com) for more information in participating at the summer farmer's market.
- b. COMMUNITY GARDEN: Four garden plots have already been rented at the community gardens at Wasserman Park. Garden preparation is expected to begin the second or third week in April. The gardens should be ready for gardeners to start preparing their plots for planting by the middle to late May depending on the weather. Bob has placed an advertisement in the Union Leader Newspaper to hire a tractor with rototiller to rototill the gardens. Those interested in responding may contact Bob at (603-759-2737).
- c. UNH EXTENSION CLASSES/WEDINARS: See Attached
- d. HORSE SENSE: Spring is time to have horses vaccinated. Core Vaccines include E/W Equine Encephalitis, Rabies, Tetanus and West Nile. Flu shots are also recommended for those showing. Also, a Coggins test is mandatory for any horse traveling off an owner's property. A Standard vaccination program for all horses does not exist. Each individual situation requires evaluation based on the following criteria. 1. Risk of disease. 2. Consequence of the disease. 3. Anticipated effectiveness of the selected product(s). 4. Cost of immunization (time, labor, vaccine costs) vs. potential cost of the disease, i.e., time out of competition, impact of movement restrictions imposed in order to control an outbreak of a contagious disease, labor and medication if, or, when, horses develop clinical disease and require treatment, or loss of life. Vaccination serves to minimize the risks of infection, but cannot prevent disease in all circumstances. Clients should have realistic expectations and understand that vaccinations alone, in the absence of good management practices directed at infection control, is not sufficient to prevent infections. A Coggins is a blood test that detects antibodies to the disease Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). Horses that become infected will carry the disease for life. Carriers often show no signs, but serve as a source of disease transmission to other horses. EIA is transmitted by flies (horse and deer flies, so horses don't actually have

to come into contact with an infected or carrier horse to catch the virus. A horse is a risk even if he never travels or lives in a closed herd. There is no vaccine for (EIA), and there is no treatment. Consult your veterinarian for a vaccination program that's best for your horse.

- e. TREASURER'S REPORT: Balances as of February 28, 2021 for the Farmer's Market Fund Account is \$ 3,853.23. The Community Garden Fund Account is \$ 819.60, with a combined total of \$ 4,462.83.
- f. MINUTES: With the correction to delete (the) in the third sentence under Farmer's Market, and correction of a typographical error (wing, instead of wind) in the (next meeting paragraph). Paul made the motion to accept as read, Bess seconded, motion carried 3-0-0.

No Comments from the Press or Public

Comments from the Commission: Bob asked the board for approval to purchase a roll of stamps at \$ 55.00 dollars for Farmer's Market and Community Garden mailings. Paul made the motion to approve the \$ 55.00 dollar for the stamp purchase, Bess seconded, motion carried 3-0-0. Bob also wanted to remind vendors that they need to make appointments with the Division of Weights and Measure to license and recertify their scales for 2021-2022. The number to call for more information is (603-271-2894).

Motion to Adjourn: Paul made the motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm, Bess seconded, motion carried 3-0-0.

The next meeting of the Agricultural Commission will be held April 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm., in the Matthew Thornton Room, East Wing.

Respectfully Submitted

Bess-Arden Parks
Acting Secretary