**Franklin Agricultural Commission**

**Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2022**

**(Hybrid Meeting)**

**In Attendance:** Members Present**:** *Roger Trahan, C.J. Koshivas, and Marian Szymanski. Also present: Mel Hamblin and Alan Earls.*

1. **Opening:**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm pm by Roger Trahan.
2. Roll Call: Three members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.

2.  **New Business:**

A. Open Space Master Plan

A plan will be developed, this Fall, for the existing open space in the town of Franklin. The plan will encompass the years 2022 to 2032. The Franklin Agricultural Commission will be invited to take part in this plan.

1. Roger informed the Commission that we will be gaining a new member: Dan Morse of Wadsworth Farm in Franklin.

**3. Old Business:**

A. “Touch a Truck Day”, 10-15-22

1. C.J. will provide a tractor and Roger will use his trailer to transport it to the DPW yard.

2. Marian will print and distribute posters/flyers for this event at her pre-school.

B.“Del Carte Clean-up”, 10-22-22, 9:00am – 12:00pm.

1. Posters are currently being distributed for this event.
2. Marian and Mel will operate a pumpkin decorating booth for the children, and an informational booth for the adults.
3. Marian will also provide pumpkin coloring pages and crayons in the event that we run out of pumpkins.
4. Community Farm/Community Gardens
5. The Franklin Agricultural Commission is in agreement that we would like to have the use of a piece of Town-owned property where we could have community garden plots, a shed, and edible gardens to encourage and educate residents about agricultural practices through workshops and demonstrations. We will now begin to develop concrete plans for such a project.
6. Pollinator Pasture
7. The Franklin Agricultural Commission agrees that the Pollinator Pasture, on Lincoln Street, is once again, out of control, unattractive, and not useful to the Town. We recognize that attempting to create a pollinator garden in the middle of an out of the way, existing weedy, grassy piece of property is not going to work. We hope to be able to create a beautiful, working pollinator pasture in the future on open land that is better suited for such a project. We will remove the signs and allow this piece of property to return to its original condition.

The meeting was adjourned by C.J. Koshivas and Marian Szymanski at 7:45pm.

Minutes submitted by Marian Szymanski