

Franklin Agricultural Commission
Meeting Minutes from August 31, 2020

Virtual Meeting using Google Meets

In Attendance: Members Present: *Carly Fisher, Roger Trahan, & Marian Szymanski, Jeff Perry, CJ Koshivas, Linda Noel.* Also present, *Mel Hamblen, Susan Speers, and Alison Dempsey.*

1. Opening:

- A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm by Chairman Carly Fisher.
- B. Roll Call: Four members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.
- C. Approval of the Minutes: The Minutes from the January 27th meeting were approved. The minutes from the February 24, 2020 Agricultural Commission meetings were not approved because the Town has not yet posted them.
- D. Carly F. read and explained the Town of Franklin's Virtual Rules.

2. New Business:

- A. Town of Medway Agricultural Commission/Medway Schools: - Alison Dempsey spoke at our meeting about the relationship the Medway Agricultural Commission has established with the school children of Medway. The Medway Agricultural Commission, The Medway Schools, The Medway Community Farm, and The Medway Cultural Council have collaborated to create farm-based educational enrichments for Medway students. These enrichments include school gardens, trips to the Community farm, farm education curriculum, a farm stand, and a Summer children's Program. Members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission have expressed interest in creating these programs/projects in Franklin.
- B. Franklin farmer's Market - Roger Trahan will now be running the Franklin Farmer's Market. CJ K. told the rest of the Commission that this year's farmer's Market has been successful and well-attended.
- C. CPA – The CPA question will be on November's ballot for the town of Franklin. Susan Speers explained the program to the Commission and she explained why the CPA has failed to pass in Franklin in the past. She shared her thoughts as to what needs to happen to pass the CPA this November. Susan stressed the need for public education on the benefits of the program. This education could happen on social media and through digital means.

3. Old Business:

- A. Round-Up Opt Out – We used last year's opt-out list.
- B. 61 Outreach – Info will be posted on the town of Franklin's social media pages. Ann Marie is the town employee who can help us with this.
- C. Pollinator Pastures – The P.P. at Dacey Field is quite over-grown at this time. We will try to renovate this garden in the Spring of 2021. Some plants were planted in the P.P. at Remington/Jefferson schools.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Linda Noel and Roger Trahan at 8:32pm

Minutes submitted by: Marian Szymanski