**Franklin Agricultural Commission**

**Meeting Minutes from January 31, 2022**

**(Meeting held Virtually Due to Covid-19 Spike)**

**In Attendance:** Members Present**:** *Roger Trahan, CJ Koshivas, and Marian Szymanski. Also present – Mel Hamblin.*

1. **Opening:**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm pm by Roger Trahan.
2. Roll Call: Three members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.
3. Approval of the Minutes: The Minutes from the 1/10/22 were approved.

**2. Old Business:**

A. Chapter 61 Properties- The Franklin Agricultural Commission has created an informational letter for potential Chapter 61 property owners, selected appropriate pamphlets and brochures to accompany the letter, and has compiled information about local farms, the Franklin Farmer’s Market, and the Winter Market at Fairmount Farm. All of these items will be mailed to qualifying property owners around the end of February.

B. Agricultural Workshops- The Commission will be working with the local cable T.V. company to produce a series of televised workshops on an assortment of agricultural topics such as fruit tree pruning, hemp production, seed starting, pollinator gardens, creating healthy soil, keeping honeybees and chickens, and growing squash and pumpkins. Members of the Agricultural Commission will begin filming the workshops on February 19th at 9:00am.

**3. New Business:**

A. 2022 Goals-

1. Organize and plant the Pollinator Pasture this Spring.

2. Community T.V. Series. –We will expand on the local Cable T.V. workshops we will be producing this Spring and will offer live and televised demonstrations and garden/farm tours.

3. Educate the Town and Franklin residents about managing and correctly caring for forests and wooded properties.

B. A Franklin homeowner received incorrect guidance for the placement of her chicken coop. The chicken coop is currently very close to the property line. Roger T. has been in contact with the home owner and with the Building Inspector. The owner and the Inspector will be meeting soon and the homeowner has hired a surveyor. The Agricultural Commission is available for further assistance should that become necessary.

The meeting was adjourned by C.J. K. and Marian S. at 8:04pm.

Minutes submitted by Marian Szymanski