

Franklin Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes from September 30, 2019

Municipal Building 355 East Central Street

In Attendance: Members Present: *Carly Fisher, Jeff Perry, Nick Hoffman, Roger Trahan, Linda Noel, & Marian Szymanski. Mel Hamblin was present as well.*

1. Opening:

- A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Chairman Carly Fisher.
- B. Roll Call: All six members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.
- C. Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the June Agricultural Commission meetings were unanimously approved.

2. New Business:

- A. Suggestions For Continued Public Engagement – The Commission discussed ways to keep residents interested in agricultural issues through-out the year. Suggestions included: Winter’s Farmer Market, classes on creating pollinator gardens, and school presentations.
- B. Recap of Events- The Franklin Agricultural Commission reviewed the projects we initiated in 2019, and we came to the following decisions:
 - Pesticide Spray Opt-Out- In 2020 we will start this program earlier and we will make the form more user-friendly. We will also post this information on the town website.
 - Pollinator Pastures- In 2020, we will develop and implement a creation and maintenance plan for the care of our pollinator pastures.
 - Strawberry Stroll & Harvest Festival – In 2020 we will improve our participation at the town festivals. We will also pay for a DTP membership.
 - Zucchini Races We will hold a zucchini race again in 2020 as it was quite successful in 2019. We will be looking for more help from the community at this event and we will seek prize donations from local businesses.

3. Old Business:

- A. Presentation To the Franklin Town Council– The Agricultural Commission will give a presentation to the Town Council on June 5th at 7:00pm. We discussed the details of the power point presentation we will give.

- B. Pollinator Pastures Update- in 2020, the Franklin Agricultural Commission will till, weed, and re-plant pollinator plants at the Pollinator Pasture at Dacey Field. We will also create a new Pollinator Pasture at Jefferson school.
- C. Harvest Festival- The Commission agreed to not have a presence at this year's festival and instead, plan for next year's event.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Jeff Perry and Roger Trahan at 8:12pm

Minutes submitted by: Marian Szymanski