

Draft MINUTES  
Guilford Agricultural Commission  
July 29, 2019  
2351 Durham Rd, Guilford, Ct

GUILFORD TOWN HALL  
19 AUG -5 PM 2: 37

Note: Minutes not final until approved at subsequent meeting.

Members Present: Kim Brockett, Peter Perkins, Janet Dudley, Diane Augur, Michael Biroscak

Absent: John Hammarlund & Cliff Merin

Staff: Kevin Magee – Environmental Planner

Items on the agenda were addressed in the order that would best expedite the meeting.

Commissioner Peter Perkins opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Kim Brockett and seconded by Commissioner Janet Dudley to approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes

- April 15, 2019

Motion made by Commissioner Kim Brockett and seconded by Commissioner Janet Dudley to approve the meeting minutes from April 15, 2019. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Public Forum (3 minutes per person)

- No one spoke during public forum

4. Old Business

A. Northern Heights Well Grant

Peter Perkins has delivered the shingles to the shed, and needs to have them installed.

B. Discussion regarding membership

Peter Perkins indicated that John Wetterman may be interested in joining the commission.

#### C. Access way to upper grazing area-

Kevin Magee reported that he talked with Half Mile Acres and they can create the accessway to the upper grazing area for approximately \$3,500 to \$4,000. Kim Brockett asked about time period for conducting work. Peter Perkins suggested that the work be completed by November 1, 2019. Janet Dudley made a motion that the commission approves the request for in kind services in accordance with the conditions of the license for Half Mile Acres to conduct work to create an access way to the upper grazing area for up to \$4,000 and that the work be completed by November 1, 2019.

#### D. Discussion regarding licensed properties

- Kevin Magee went over the letters that he prepared to send to the licensee regarding the commissions concerns from the site walk held on May 18, 2019. The letter submitted to Dino Esposito of Stoneridge Farm notes that the commissioners saw branches pressing down on the fence line and portions of the fields are being taken over by multi flora rose and other invasive plants. The letter requests that he needs to brush hog the area and trim branches around the edges. The commission concerns for John Hammarlund of Half Mile Acres and Charles Potter of Potter Family Farm are that the edges of the fields are being taken over by multi floral rose and other invasive bushes. The letter be submitted to them reminds them that they need to mow around the edges and trim branches. The commission indicated that they in approval with the language of the letter.
- Peter Perkins asked about the expiration of the licenses. Kevin indicated that Stoneridge Farms Grazing License expires on December 31, 2025, Half Mile Acres Haying License expires December 31, 2021, and Potter Family Farm Haying License expires December 31, 2021.

#### E. Agricultural Display

The next event is the Guilford Fair. Kevin Magee has the display from the Earth Day event which that can be set up at the fair. Since there are small items from local farm the display should be behind chicken wire.

#### 5. New Business

- Kevin Magee indicated that he went by 5 Star Performance off Bluff Head Road and observed that the manure management practices approved as part of the special permit are not being followed. The commission suggested that the Kevin send a note to the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

- Kim Brockett showed the commission a copy of Lebanon Connecticut farm map and noted that Lebanon has the greatest area of preserved farm land in Connecticut. Kim will talk with the Land Acquisition Commission regarding regional farm preservation.

6. Other Business:

- Peter Perkins indicated that the commission needs to look at replacing the Agricultural Signs at the entrances to Guilford.
- Kim Brockett asked about timber harvesting on town properties. Kevin Magee indicated that the Conservation Commission received funding in this year's budget to update the Timberland Management Plan which will look at potential areas for timber harvest.
- Peter Perkins asked about what is left for Guilford Farm Maps. Kevin Magee indicated that we have about a case left, however some of the information on the maps need to be updates. The commission may want to look at updating the information on the maps.

7. Correspondence: None submitted

8. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Janet Dudley and seconded by Commissioner Michael Biroscak to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by



Kevin W. Magee

Environmental Planner

