

Draft MINUTES
Guilford Agricultural Commission
January 28, 2019
Community Center- 32 Church St

GUILFORD TOWN HALL
10 JAN 31 AM 11:10

Note: Minutes not final until approved at subsequent meeting.

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

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 7:35 p.m.

GUEST: Herb Burnstein and James Goodman

1. Approval of Agenda

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

2. Approval of Minutes

- December 17, 2018

Motion made by Commissioner Kim Brockett and seconded by Commissioner Diane Augur to approve the meeting minutes from December 17, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Public Forum (3 minutes per person)

- No one spoke during public forum

4. Old Business

A. James Goodman – 86 Middle Road – Pheasants

James Goodman provided a copy of his zoning compliance document dated December 27, 2018. All 31 birds have been tested for Salmonella pullorum-typhoid Microtiter agglutination and all tests came back negative for the disease. Willow Lake from Connecticut Department of Agricultural performed an inspection of the property on

January 3, 2019 which noted that Mr. Goodman is using generally acceptable practices in the management and care of the pheasants. The inspection report noted the concerns of a brush pile to close to an area housing birds and the mortalities being buried in the yard. James Goodman indicated that he has removed the brush pile and that he will be no longer burying pheasants at the property.

Kevin Magee presented the commission with a memo dated January 28, 2019 which outlined the events leading to today's meeting and information that the Planning and Zoning Commission would need to evaluate as part of a special permit application. A copy of the memo is attached.

James Goodman asked Herb Burnstein if he contacted Department of Agricultural. Herb Burnstein noted he checked with the agency for information on best management practices and any information on file for the property from Freedom of Information Act.

Commissioner Kim Brockett noted the agricultural commission's role is in regards animal husbandry. Are the animals taken care of, are they clean, and the storage of feed. The building locations and size are Planning and Zoning Commission decision.

Commissioner Peter Perkins noted that he does not see anything of harm to any of the birds. Pete would not go any further with any more pens or any more birds in the pens. He found birds to be well taken care of as far as the water structure, cleanliness, and the food. Peter did not see anything that would indicate that the birds are being mistreated.

Commissioner Kim Brockett indicated that she agrees that the number of birds should not be increased from the 31 birds observed at the walk meeting.

James Goodman noted that he currently has 16 birds on site to meet the Planning and Zoning Commission approval. The additional birds are being stored off site but were brought back for the day that they were being tested by the state.

Commissioner Peter Perkins made a motion that the commission's recommendation to the Planning and Zoning Commission is that no more than 31 pheasants be allowed on the property of James Goodman, 86 Middle Road Guilford Connecticut. This number is based on the number of pheasants observed at the property on December 9, 2018, the conditions observed during the site meeting, and the best management practices being utilized. The motion was seconded by Diane Auger.

Discussion:

Kevin Magee asked if the numbers added up to the square footage for the number of birds per aviary. Commissioner Brockett noted that the breed of pheasant housed is on the smaller side of the pheasant family and should not be an issue. Commissioner Perkins agreed that these are smaller and weigh less than a regular pheasant.

Vote: In favor –Diane Augur, Kim Brockett, Janet Dudley, and Peter Perkins
Against –No votes against

B. Northern Heights Well Grant

The well house still needs roof shingles. Commissioner Pete Perkins indicated he has shingles and will do it in a few weeks.

C. Discussion regarding membership

- Commissioner Diane Auger indicated that someone from her church has contacted her regarding membership. She referred the person to Kevin Magee.
- Commissioner Kim Brockett indicated that she heard from a resident on Moose Hill Road, however he was unable to attend meetings on Monday nights.
- The commission discussed holding meetings in North Guilford at the Dudley Farm on June 17th, July 15th, and August 19th. Janet Dudley will check to see if the building is available.

D. Discussion regarding licensed properties

The commission discussed the need for a farm road to be installed at Northern Heights to gain access to the upper grazing area. Kevin Magee showed the commission a proposed path that enters by the underground water tank at the intersection of North View Drive and Wimler Lane and follows along the property lines of the houses on Wimler Lane and turns along the driveway to the 4 acre lot. The road would then follow the southerly property line of the 4 acre lot to the western property line and then follow the property line to the gate to the upper field.

E. Agricultural Display

The commission would like to participate at Earth Fest event on April 27, 2019 at the Guilford Fair Grounds. It was suggested that the display could contain items from local farms such as an empty syrup container from Busters Farm, display of H2O farm products, and a Christmas tree sapling. Janet will help coordinate the products.

5. New Business

- Agricultural Signs – Kevin Mage has 6 little signs – Janet believes they sold for \$20.00. The agricultural signs at the town entrances need to be replaced since they are fading. Commissioner Perkins asked Kevin Magee to check the life span of the installed signs.
- The commission set a date to walk Northern Heights on February 2, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. to view the proposed location of the farm road. The commission will meet at cul-de-sac on Wimler Lane.

6. Other Business: None

7. Correspondence: None

8. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Janet Dudley and seconded by Commissioner Kim Brockett to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by



Kevin W. Magee

Environmental Planner



THE OLD STONE HOUSE

TOWN OF GUILFORD

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
50 BOSTON STREET – TOWN HALL SOUTH
GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT 06437
SETTLED IN 1639

Kevin W. Magee
Environmental Planner

TELEPHONE: (203) 453.8074
FAX: (203) 453.8034

Memo

January 28, 2019

To: Guilford Agricultural Commission

From: Kevin Magee, Environmental Planner

RE: James Goodman
Keeping of Pheasants
86 Middle Road
Guilford, Connecticut

James Goodman of 86 Middle Road is looking to retain 31 Pheasants at his residence at 86 Middle Road which is a 0.33 acre parcel. At the Agricultural Commissions August 20, 2018 meeting, the commission voted that the number of pheasants can be based on a ratio of the unit number and the lot size. Based on this calculation it was determined that there can be 16 pheasant at that property.

Planning and Zoning Commission public hearings were held on September 19, 2018 and October 3, 2018 were the Planning and Zoning Commission approved a special permit with the following conditions:

1. That no more than 16 birds are allowed
2. That the cleanliness and operation of the aviary shall be in accordance with Best Practice Management for the Keeping of Wild Fowl Aviaries and the Connecticut Public Health Code, Section 19-13-B1.
3. That structures which are non-conforming regarding property line setbacks be removed or relocated
4. That the Special Permit expire on October 1, 2028
5. All remaining aviary structures must have shallow surface swales dug around their perimeters to intersect and prevent run-off water from entering the aviary and mixing with manure
6. The tarp covering on all remaining aviaries must be extended beyond the aviary foot print so that the enclosed roosting area is kept dry and rain water does not mix with the manure to become odiferous.
7. Any straw or mulch used as aviary bedding must ne regularly racked up and replaced. All used mulch and straw must be composted and disposed.
8. Pheasant feed must be placed in feeding troughs and not dispensed on the ground. Spilled feed shall be cleaned-up regularly.

This special permit was filed on the Guilford Land records on October 12, 2018 and a building permit to legalize and relocate 3 aviaries was issued on November 9, 2018. A certificate of Zoning Compliance for the October 3, 2018 Planning and Zoning Commission Special permit which included 16 pheasants was issued on December 27, 2018.

At the November 19, 2018 Agricultural Commission meeting, James Goodman submitted a request to the commission requesting that number of pheasants allowed at his property be reevaluated due to the size of the birds, that he has diverted water away from the aviaries, and he has added visors to the aviaries to prevent rain egress. At the meeting Noelle Flamand, the adjacent neighbor noted that her major concern was aviaries and the outbuildings being messy. Herb Burnstein noted that he is concerned about 12% percent slope between Milford road and Brookside Drive and the intermittent stream between the properties. The commission walked the properties on December 9, 2018 the aviaries observed were aviary 1 (109 ft²) which had no pheasants, Aviary 2 (189 ft²) with 10 pheasants, Aviary 3(189 ft²) with 8 pheasants, and Aviary 4 (182 ft²) which was divided in half with 5 pheasant on the left side and 8 pheasants on the right side.

At the December 17, 2018 Agricultural Commission meeting James Goodman provided data on the square feet per pheasant from The Code of Practice of Aviculture, The State of Queensland, Department of Environment and Science dated 2010 recommend 8ft² per bird being 16 inches. I provided a guide for the Raising of Pheasants published by the North Dakota Extension Service dated May 2016 that provides the framework for best management practices for the raising of pheasants. The guide recommends a minimum of 20 square feet per a pheasant with more space being better to prevent feather picking and cannibalism. Herb Burnstein provided a letter from Noelle and Edward Flamand which indicted that do not like seeing blight in their neighbors yard and the aviaries with large quantities of birds. The Flamands are concerned about property value, water quality, and enforcement of bird quantities.

Based on the recommendation from the Guide on Raising Pheasant by NDSU extension services of 20 square feet per a pheasant each aviary could contain the following maximum of pheasants:

Aviary 1: 5 pheasants

Aviary 2: 9 pheasant

Aviary 3: 9 pheasants

Aviary 4: 9 pheasants

The Agricultural Section of the Planning and Zoning Commission Regulations section 273-243 Keeping of Livestock notes that this section of the regulation is intended to promote, protect, and encourage keeping livestock in an appropriate and responsible manner within the community that will protect neighbors from associated negative impacts. Noncommercial farms must adhere to the "Number of Animals per acre" and Site Suitability and impact standards. Noncommercial farms may qualify as Commercial Farm if Approved by Special Permit.

The role of the agricultural commission with the request is to provide advice to the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the proper number of pheasants that this property could contain based on the best management practices for the species, the Connecticut Public health code, and Water Pollution Control Regulations (CGS Section 22a-430).



THE OLD STONE HOUSE

TOWN OF GUILFORD
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
50 BOSTON STREET – TOWN HALL SOUTH
GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT 06437
SETTLED IN 1639

Erin Mannix
Zoning Enforcement Officer

TELEPHONE: (203) 453.8031
FAX: (203) 453.8034

CERTIFICATE OF ZONING COMPLIANCE

December 27, 2018

PROPERTY LOCATION: 86 Middle Road

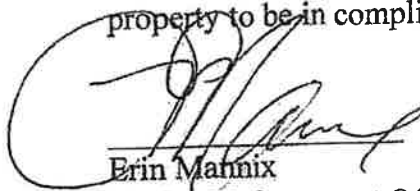
MAP/LOT: 60/37

UNIQUE ID: 704

OWNER: JAMES L. GOODMAN

PROJECT: Legalize and relocate three aviaries: 1- (14ft. x 13ft); 2- 15.5ft. diameter, for 16 golden pheasants as per Planning & Zoning Commission Special Permit dated October 3, 2018. All Conditions of Special Permit apply.

A site inspection on December 26, 2018 by the Zoning Enforcement Officer revealed the property to be in compliance with all conditions of Special Permit.


Erin Mannix
Zoning Enforcement Officer

12/27/18
Date



Vet: Dr. Mary Jane Lis
Department of Agriculture
State of Connecticut
450 Columbus Blvd Suite 702
Hartford CT 06103

LOCATION OF ANIMAL
86 Middle Rd
Guilford CT 06437
County: New Haven

JAMES GOODMAN
86 MIDDLE RD
GUILFORD CT 06437

Date Collected: 1/3/2019
Date Submitted: 1/3/2019
Date Reported: 1/4/2019

PH: 203-494-6100

LABORATORY FINDINGS

SEROLOGY RESULTS:

TEST REQUEST: *Salmonella pullorum*-typhoid Microtiter agglutination screening test
SPECIMEN TYPE: Serum

NO.	ANIMAL ID	SPECIES	BREED	SEX	AGE	RESULTS & COMMENTS
1	CT23619	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
2	CT23620	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
3	CT23621	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
4	CT23622	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative
5	CT23623	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative
6	CT23624	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
7	CT23625	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
8	CT23626	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
9	CT23627	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
10	CT23628	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative
11	CT23629	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
12	CT23630	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative
13	CT23631	Avian	Pheasan	M	6M	Negative
14	CT23632	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative
15	CT23633	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative
16	CT23634	Avian	Pheasan	F	6M	Negative

Salmonella pullorum - typhoid Microtiter agglutination test; USDA Antigen lot #1702;
Serum initially screened at a 1:40 dilution

Holly McGinnis 1/4/2019

Final Report: 1/4/2019

-----END OF REPORT-----



Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

Department of Pathobiology and Veterinary Science • College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
61 North Eagleville Road Unit 3089 • Storrs, CT 06269-3089
phone: 860-486-3738 • fax: 860-486-3936 • web: www.CVMDL.uconn.edu

Accession No: 19-19

Vet: Dr. Mary Jane Lis
Department of Agriculture
State of Connecticut
450 Columbus Blvd Suite 702
Hartford CT 06103

LOCATION OF ANIMAL
58 Windfall Lane
Guilford CT 06437
County: New Haven

FINAL REPORT

KAREN PEMBERTON
JAMES GOODMAN
86 MIDDLE RD
GUILFORD CT 06437

Date Collected: 1/3/2019
Date Submitted: 1/3/2019
Date Reported: 1/4/2019

PH: 203-494-6100

LABORATORY FINDINGS

SEROLOGY RESULTS:

TEST REQUEST: *Salmonella pullorum*-typhoid Microtiter agglutination screening test
SPECIMEN TYPE: Serum

NO.	ANIMAL ID	SPECIES BREED	SEX AGE	RESULTS & COMMENTS
1	CT23635	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative
2	CT23636	Avian Pheasant	M 6M	Negative
3	CT23638	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative
4	CT23639	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative
5	CT23640	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative
6	CT23641	Avian Pheasant	M 6M	Negative
7	CT23642	Avian Pheasant	M 6M	Negative
8	CT23643	Avian Pheasant	M 6M	Negative
9	CT23644	Avian Pheasant	F 2Y	Negative
10	CT23645	Avian Pheasant	M 6M	Negative
11	CT23646	Avian Pheasant	F 2Y	Negative
12	CT23647	Avian Pheasant	M 6M	Negative
13	CT23648	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative
14	CT23649	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative
15	CT23650	Avian Pheasant	F 6M	Negative

Salmonella pullorum - typhoid Microtiter agglutination test; USDA Antigen lot #1702;
Serum initially screened at a 1:40 dilution

Holly McGinnis 1/4/2019

Final Report: 1/4/2019

-----END OF REPORT-----



Vet: Dr. Mary Jane Lis
Department of Agriculture
State of Connecticut
450 Columbus Blvd Suite 702
Hartford CT 06103

LOCATION OF ANIMAL
86 Middle Rd
Guilford CT 06437
County: New Haven

JAMES GOODMAN
86 MIDDLE RD
GUILFORD CT 06437

Date Collected: 1/3/2019
Date Submitted: 1/3/2019
Date Reported: 1/4/2019

PH: 203-494-6111

LABORATORY FINDINGS

MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS RESULTS:

TEST REQUEST: Influenza A Virus Matrix PCR - Live Bird Market

NO.	ANIMAL ID	SAMPLE	IAV MATRIX
1	1G	Tracheal Swab	Not Detected
2	2G	Tracheal Swab	Not Detected

UPDATE: PCR results for avian samples are reported as "detected" (instead of positive) or "not detected" (instead of negative) and include the cycle threshold (Ct) value. The lower the Ct value, the more nucleic acid was detected.

Zeinab Helal 1/4/2019

Final Report: 1/4/2019

-----END OF REPORT-----



Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

Department of Pathobiology and Veterinary Science • College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
61 North Eagleville Road Unit 3089 • Storrs, CT 06269-3089
phone: 860-486-3738 • fax: 860-486-3936 • web: www.CVMDL.uconn.edu

Accession No: 19-17
FINAL REPORT

Vet: Dr. Mary Jane Lis
Department of Agriculture
State of Connecticut
450 Columbus Blvd Suite 702
Hartford CT 06103

LOCATION OF ANIMAL
58 Windfall Lane
Guilford CT 06437
County: New Haven

KAREN PEMBERTON
JAMES GOODMAN
86 MIDDLE RD
GUILFORD CT 06437

Date Collected: 1/3/2019
Date Submitted: 1/3/2019
Date Reported: 1/4/2019

PH: 203-494-6104

LABORATORY FINDINGS

MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS RESULTS:

TEST REQUEST: Influenza A Virus Matrix PCR - Live Bird Market

NO.	ANIMAL ID	SAMPLE	IAV MATRIX
1	1Go	Tracheal Swab	Not Detected
2	2Go	Tracheal Swab	Not Detected

UPDATE: PCR results for avian samples are reported as "detected" (instead of positive) or "not detected" (instead of negative) and include the cycle threshold (Ct) value. The lower the Ct value, the more nucleic acid was detected.

Zeinab Helal 1/4/2019

Final Report: 1/4/2019

-----END OF REPORT-----

State of Connecticut

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Regulation and Inspection

INSPECTION
REPORT
NARRATIVE



Name: _____

Jim Goodman

Address: _____

86 Middle Road Guilford CT

Complaint # 2018-00

Findings/Observations: _____

On January 3, 2019 I AGMIR II Lake and AGMIR II McGuire conducted a site visit to the home of Mr. Jim Goodman at his request to conduct an assessment of Generally Accepted Agricultural Practices. The following finding were made:

Presently there are 21 pheasants located on the property. These pheasants are used for exhibition and breeding purposes. The pheasants that are not kept for breeding are sold. Mr. Goodman stated that he owns the property and has lived there for 25 years. The property is 0.3 acres. One dwelling is located on the property. In addition, 3 geo-domes are on the property. One is 12 feet in diameter the other two are 15 feet in diameter. One hoop house is also on the property measuring approximately 14 ft. x 14 ft. The geo domes and the green house are the housing for the pheasants

A Brush pile and wooded area are located to the rear of the property. The brush pile is located close to the pheasants housing areas.

One greenhouse measuring 8x10 ft. and a metal shed measuring 8x8 ft. and two shelter logic temporary sheds measuring 10x20 store materials.

Mr. Goodman states that he stores feed in metal containers in the house and that these are lined with plastic bags and covered. Woodchips and straw are used for bedding, manure goes to the dump and some is composted on site in a 2.5ft x 2.5ft bin with wooden sides.

Mr. Goodman reported that mortalities are buried on site, during the time that these birds have been onsite Mr. Goodman reported having three mortalities.

Based on our observations and information provided by Mr. Goodman, he is using generally acceptable practices in the management and care of his pheasants. The following is recommended in addition to the Generally Accepted Practices in use.

1. To remove the brush and wooded areas up to ten feet away from the areas housing the birds to discourage rodent involvement.
2. Remove mortalities from the property in the manure going to the dump, or compost the carcasses in the compost bin on site.

AGMIR II

Inspector Signature

Date

1/4/19

24 Jan 19



