

draft MINUTES
Guilford Agricultural Commission
May 21, 2018
Community Center- 32 Church St

Note: Minutes not final until approved at subsequent meeting.

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

Absent: John Hammarlund and Cliff Merwin

Staff: Kevin Magee – Environmental Planner

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

Chairman Peter Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

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

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Kim Brockett and seconded by Commissioner Diane Augur to approve the meeting minutes from April 21, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Commissioner Kim Brockett and seconded by Commissioner Janet Dudley to approve the special meeting minutes from May 12, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Public Forum - None

4. New Business – None

5. Old Business

- Northern Heights Well Grant – Need to get electrician and plumber back since it is warm out.
- Agricultural Display for Special Events – Commissioner Peter Perkins to make three sided display of the mission statement will be placed on one of the panels. Commissioner Kim Brockett reached out to Keith Bishop to get the Guilford Agricultural sign back to be used in the display.
- Discussion regarding membership - Commission members are interested in the status of Tom Pinchbeck coming back to the board.

- Discussions of site visits – Commissioner Peter Perkins indicated several of the licensee voiced a concern the regarding the contract time periods and work that need to get performed on the property. John Hammarlund has large amount of sink holes that developed in his license area that need to be filled in. In addition the western portion of the license area was not brushed hogged by the previous licensee and requires additional work to restore the area. Commissioner Kim Brockett suggested that the commission ask that John Hammarlund provide the commission with a cost estimate. Kevin Magee was asked to follow up with John.

Dino Esposito noted at the walk that he was interested in cutting an access road to the western pasture. Dino was going to provide a cost estimate to the commission. Kevin noted that this pasture area along with his other pastures need to be brushed hogged. This area appears not to have been brushed hog for several years. Commissioner Peter indicated that the lower access area should also be cut back. Commissioner Peter Perkins noted that he walked this area several years ago and it was accessible.

Dudley Preserve the fields looked ok. Need town workers to remove the autumn olive from the field edge. Kevin Magee indicated that this work would not be able to be conducted until the fall.

6. Other Business

- Discussion of North Guilford - Commissioner Janet Dudley will check with the Dudley Foundation for use of the building on a rotational basis for a trial basis. The change in meeting location would be placed on next years meeting schedule.
- Farm Property Historic Barns Exemption. Kevin Magee will check on the requirements for the exemption and report back at the next meeting.
- PA 490 Property Tax increase. Several Commissioners expressed concerns that they received notice of the PA 490 tax increase after the required appeals period for 2018. The members need to wait until 2019 to appeal the increase.

7. Correspondence - None

8. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Janet Dudley and seconded by Commissioner Kim Brockett to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by

Kevin W. Magee
Environmental Planner