

Approved MINUTES
Guilford Agricultural Commission
July 18, 2016
Community Center- 32 Church St, Leete Room
Note: Minutes not final until approved at subsequent meeting.

Members Present: Kim Brockett, Bill Butterly, Peter Perkins, & Paul Wettemann

Absent: Gary Arbuckle, Janet Dudley, & John Hammarlund

Staff: Kevin Magee – Environmental Planner

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

Chairman Bill Butterly called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Csmr. Peter Perkins and seconded by Csmr. Paul Wettemann to approve the agenda and it was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes
- June 20, 2016

Motion made by Csmr. Peter Perkins and seconded by Csmr. Kim Brockett to approve the meeting minutes from June 20, 2016. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Public Forum No one from the public was present.

4. New Business- No new Business was discussed.

5. Old Business

- Northern Heights Fence Grant – Kevin Magee reported that all the fencing besides the barbed wire was up and the gates have been installed. Csmr. Pete Perkins and Cmsr. John Hammarlund will work together to get the barbed wire up. Kevin Magee indicated that the cows are now in the fields and this work may need to hold off until the fall.
- Northern Heights Well Grant – Received contract which was presented to the Board of Selectman. Town legal counsel is waiting for a signed contract between Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEEP) and the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District before signing the contract. It was stated what work will be needs to be done by September 15, 2016. Kevin has been trying to contact Dino Esposito at

Stoneridge Farms for a permission letter. Kevin asked Csmr. Peter Perkins for architectural plans of the shed for the building permit.

- Northern Heights Neighbor Update – Kevin Magee indicated that he received an email from Roland St. Denis who abuts the town property. Roland St. Denis is concerned about the small pile of dirt and telephone pole that Dino has placed along the property line. Kevin Magee indicated that the material was placed there by Dino to prevent the adjacent property owner from cutting on to town property. Kevin reported that this could be considered unnecessary waste, loss and damage to the land. The commission felt since it was a small pile of soil that it is not unnecessary waste of the land.

Kevin Magee indicated that he was contacted by Deb Heinrich regarding Dino's use of her driveway and driving through her property to get to part of the grazing field. Kevin explained that Dino was notified last fall that after January 1st that he could not use the driveway and that Kevin requested to meet with him to show him an alternate way to the field. To date Dino has not taken Kevin up on his offer. Deb Heinrich indicated to Kevin that she will be installing a gate at the top of her driveway and any one that needs access through her driveway would need to contact her.

Csmr. Bill Butterly asked if Dino was notified regarding the neighbors willingness to pay for the loss of hay if Dino allows them to cut their lawns over the property line. Kevin Magee indicated that he has several phone calls to Dino to contact him regarding issues going on with the neighbors at Northern Heights which have not been returned. Csmr. Bill Butterly asked that a letter be sent to Dino to make him aware of the issues.

6. Other Business –

Kevin Magee indicated that he meet with John Hammarlund at the Northern Heights Grazing area. John showed Kevin areas along the tree line that have not been brushed hogged by the previous licensee. Kevin recommended that the commission or a subcommittee walk the license areas yearly to view the work being conducted by the licensee.

Csmr. Paul Wettemann indicated that he spoke with Charlie Potter who has the current license for the Dudley Preserve. Charlie reported that he conducted soil sampling at the fields and the pH level was low and that they did not get as much yield as they expected. Question was asked if the licensee have been conducting the yearly soil sampling and reporting as required by the contract. Kevin indicated that he will make sure that reports are received this year.

Csmr. Bill Butterly noted that there is a seat available on the commission and if the commissioners knew anyone that would like to be on the commission. Paul Wettemann indicated that he would check with his cousin Joe Wettemann who works with the CT DEEP and deals with animal issues.

7. Correspondence - None

8. Adjournment

Motion by Csmr. Peter Perkins and seconded by Csmr. Paul Wettemann to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by

Kevin W. Magee
Environmental Planner