

draft MINUTES  
Guilford Agricultural Commission  
August 20, 2018  
Community Center- 32 Church St

Note: Minutes not final until approved at subsequent meeting.

Members Present: Janet Dudley, Kim Brockett, Diane Augur and Cliff Merwin

Absent: Peter Perkins and John Hammarlund

Staff: Kevin Magee – Environmental Planner

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

Chairman Peter Perkins was not present the commission asked Environmental Planner Kevin Magee to chair the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 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 Janet Dudley to approve the meeting minutes from May 21, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.
3. Public Forum - None
4. New Business –James Goodman, 86 Middle Road, Planning and Zoning Commission  
Special Permit for keeping more than 12 pheasant on a lot under one acre. Kevin Magee reviewed the permit application with the commission, and read the attached letter from the James Goodman to the Planning and Zoning commission. The letter notes that adults Pheasant weigh 1.3 pounds, that he has three aviaries that contain 10 bird colonies and a small pen for isolation. Food is stored in metal cans inside the house and the waste is composted. Kevin Magee noted that this application is a result of a blight investigation by the Zoning Enforcement officer Erin Mannix and the Health Director Dennis Johnson. At the time of the blight investigation 41 pheasant were reported to be on the property. Erin Mannix sent a notice of violation to the property owner noting

that they are in violation for keeping of poultry on a parcel with less than one acre of land.

Kevin Magee indicated that he talked with Erin Mannix today and that there are down to 31 pheasant which they would like to keep. Erin Mannix also wanted to know if the commission had any concerns regarding the keeping of male pheasant. Commissioner Kim Brockett indicated that she is not concerned with the male pheasant since they do not make a lot of noise. Commissioner Janet Dudley indicated that she has no problem with determining the number of pheasant based on the size of the parcel.

Commissioner Kim Brockett made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Cliff Merwin that the number of pheasant can be based on the ratio of the unit number and the lot size; that they are OK with the male pheasant since it does not make a lot of noise; and that best management practices for the keeping of poultry.

## 5. Old Business

- Northern Heights Well Grant – Kevin Magee reported that the electrical is all set with the well. The well line has not been charged with water since no request has been made for the water.
- Commissioner Diane Auger reported that Michael has been treating the briars growing in the Northern Heights grazing area. Commissioner Kim Brockett asked if any information was received from Dino Esposito regarding creating a road up the rocky hill side to the upper grazing area. Kevin Magee indicated that he has not received any information. Commissioner Janet Dudley indicated that she is concerned about the amount of work that it may take to put a driveway in at that location and that accessing the area may be better from the northwest side.
- Commissioner Kim Brockett asked if we heard from John Hammarlund regarding his interest in filling the holes in his Northern Heights hay lot and if the Hammarlund's are current with their license fee. Kevin Magee indicated that he has not heard from John and they still owe money on the payment that was due in May.
- Agricultural Display for Special Events – Kevin Magee indicated that he received the Guilford Agricultural sign back from Bishops to be used in the display or placed near an entrance point at the fairgrounds. Kevin Magee showed the commission a rough layout of a display which would include the Guilford Farm map and the description of the properties. Kevin Magee asked if anyone has any additional photographs of Guilford's farming activities to send them to him. Kevin Magee will check with K&G graphics to see if they can print the material on a foam board. In addition if members have farm items that they would like to place in the display to let him know. Commissioner Cliff Merwin asked

about obtaining old photographs of Guilford farms. Commissioner Janet Dudley indicated that it is too close to this year fair to get this information but we should start looking into that for next year. Commissioner Kim Brockett indicated that she will check with other farms to see if they would donate an item for the display. Kevin Magee will check with Peter Perkins to see if he can build a back ground to hold the foam board.

6. Other Business

- Discussion of meeting in 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 year's meeting schedule. Commissioner Janet Dudley noted that during the winter months we may not be able to meet at that location due to facilities do not get plowed out after snow storms since they are not active during those months.

7. Correspondence - None

8. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Cliff Merwin and seconded by Commissioner Kim Brockett to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by



Kevin W. Magee

Environmental Planner