

Agriculture Commission
6:30 PM 25 August 2025
In the Canterbury Meetinghouse

Vice Chair Mark Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:40

Members Present: Josh Marshall, Mark Stevens, Jill McCullough, Corinne Pullen, Craig Pullen, Daimon Meeh.

Members Absent: Eric Glines, Nicole Glines, Katie Archer

Guests: Ben Davis, Calvin Todd, Kal McKay

Updates from Kal McKay, Administrative Assistant

- Everyone on the Commission is required to watch the pre-recorded Right to Know video to be prepared to appropriately respond to Freedom of Information Act requests and help members avoid personal liability from not responding appropriately to the requests. Kal will send an email to all members with a link to the training. Members should watch the training and email Kal when they have completed it so she can make record of who has taken the training.
- Kal wants to ensure everyone is set up and using their town government email addresses and will be available directly after the meeting to help anyone who needs it.
- There is a new Code of Conduct policy that members need to read. Kal will send it out to be reviewed.

Approval of Minutes

- Josh moved to approve the Minutes for the 15 April 2025 meeting, Jill seconded. Unanimous approval.

Treasurers Report

- None to review

Farmers Market Liaison Report

- None to review

Chairman's update

- Mark got an invite from the Board of Selectmen on the 4th of September for an "all Chairs meeting" and is planning on attending. If there are any items that the Agriculture Commission wants Mark to bring to the Select Board, let Mark know before the meeting next week.
- The town Tricentennial Committee is hoping that all the town boards and committees can contribute to the celebration in 2027. There is an idea of planting 300 trees for the tricentennial. Mark is asking if the members of the Agriculture Commission think that is a good activity for the Agriculture Commission to be in charge of. They are looking for trees with historic significance to gather seeds from to cultivate. Mark hopes to get help gathering seeds this fall to plant in order to have the trees available in spring of 2027 to transplant. The members of the Agriculture Commission were supportive of being involved with this part of the celebration. Action Items:

- Josh Marshall will contact Extension to see if a county forester could come to an Agriculture Commission meeting to teach how to start trees. Late fall and early winter for this meeting.
- Thinking about where the funds would come from for materials such as soil, pots, and fertilizer. The Tricentennial committee may be able to provide some funds but many members had ideas of where to get some of the supplies for free.
- Josh will contact Mike Bertolone to see if he has any interest in sponsoring some of the costs
- The town is cleaning out the Sam Lake House garage and found a hand crank operated hay baler. Selectmen are looking for a place to potentially donate it and asked the Agriculture Commission if they had any ideas. Suggestions have been Shaker Village, The New Hampshire Farm Museum in Milton, Remick Farm Museum, The Peverly Barn up in Plymouth that is now a wedding venue, and Sanborn Mills in Loudon.
- List of local farms-
 - Farmer's market was looking for a list of local farms for a recognition week, but the turnaround was quick and the list generated may be incomplete.
 - Spurred the thought that the Ag Commission should work to finish creating the list previously started and maintain it.
 - Ample discussion about the challenges of how to identify a farm.
 - Should tree farms be added to the list?
 - Assignment to think about how we could go about identifying these farms.

Election of officers to finish out the term through March

- Slate of officers was proposed: Chair Mark Stevens, Vice Chair: Eric Glines, Treasurer: Josh Marshall, Secretary: Daimon Meeh. Moved Jill, seconded Josh. Unanimous vote to accept the slate of officers.

New Business

- Selectmen have been asked about acknowledging the indigenous history of the land. There may be a request coming from the selectboard to provide Ag Comm input on the idea. Mark asked that a formal request for input be provided to the Agriculture Commission in order to be able to respond. Kal and Calvin indicated that they would make that happen if feedback is needed.

Next meeting

- In the Meetinghouse, Likely October 27th at 6:30PM

Josh moved to adjourn, Corinne Seconded.

Adjourned 8:40PM

Respectfully submitted,
Daimon Meeh, Secretary