

The Canterbury Agricultural Commission Meeting 10/20/2026

Call to meeting: 7PM

Members present: Jill McCullough, Mark Stevens, Jessie Scanlon, Daimon Meeh,

Members absent: Josh Marshall, Eric Glines and Ben Davis

Alternates: None

Selectmen Representative: Calvin Todd

Guests present: Niomi Scanlon

1. Approval of 9/15/26 meeting minutes. No edits, unanimous approval
2. Tricentennial Committee Carriage House proposal. Steve and Betty Fifefield brought the idea forward for a 16'x50' shed on the north end of the library parking lot. Could be used for storage 5, 10' bays. Reproduction of a shed that was in the center but burned in the fire. The purpose would be to provide sheltered space for town functions and activities. Planning to fundraise for the cost of construction and an endowment for maintenance. Will appear as a warrant article for town approval but no request for funding. How can the Ag Commission help? Spread the word and gather support. Grappone is doing oil changes for a fund raiser on 10/28 at the municipal building. All members of the Ag Commission present were supportive of the idea.
3. Confirm meeting on 3rd Tuesdays of a month for 2027
 - a. Members suggested moving the start time from 7:00PM to 6:00PM otherwise there was agreement on the schedule and time.
4. Submit numbers for 2027 budget
 - a. Commission will request \$500.00 like last year and Calvin will pass that along to Ken Folsom
5. Each member give a brief description of one's background and interest in serving on the Ag Commission.
 - a. **ACTION ITEM** Members to send their brief description to Daimon before the next meeting. Then Daimon will share with Kal to get them up on the website.
6. Final approval for the Agricultural Commission Mission Statement and Bylaws for posting on the town website.
 - a. One change noted was that the time and schedule of the regular meetings was specified in the bylaws. There will be a change to reflect the current meeting schedule.
7. Members and Alternates
 - a. Ben is interested in being a full member but has not completed his paperwork.
 - b. Jill will ask Mike Bertelone and Laurie Lockwood if they would like to be alternates.

8. FarmersMarket Liaison

- a. Jill will ask Dale Cochrane and he may be able to fill an alternate slot as well if he is interested

9. NH Food and Agricultural Strategic Plan

- a. Brief discussion. Jill had read some and Jessie had Printed some of the parts out that interested her. Daimon is going to try to get some more hard copies for the members of the Ag Commission to share.
- b. Good information about Ag in NH
- c. Daimon will update Ag Commission as the strategic plan transitions to work groups that may produce products helpful for the Ag Commission.

10. Mark's updates,

- a. Kelly Short, Chair of the Conservation Commission and Brendan O'Donnell Chair of the Planning Board invited Mark to talk about a couple of topics:

- i. The cluster development wording. Mark is encouraged by the progress towards making cluster development attractive to developers which would encourage more conservation of agricultural land.

Discussion: Calvin provided some additional information on the beginnings of the proposed wording to help fill out the details. Daimon mentioned that if we take it a step further, it would be pretty important to have a way of ensuring the set aside land in a cluster development situation was desirable for agricultural production. Even better if there was a way to encourage production on the land.

- ii. Also discussed the wetland ordinance that passed last year. Mark decided that it was better to define "a structure" specifically for that ordinance rather than list the exceptions. He is almost finished with a proposed definition for that particular ordinance.

- b. Matthew Cobb Chair of the Candia Ag Commission. Candia is hosting a big event next may and asked Mark to be a speaker at that event. Topic was the inventory of barns in town for historic preservation.

11. New Business?

- a. Planning board is going to be reviewing their cluster development ordinance Meetinghouse 9/27 at 7:00 PM and members of the Ag Commission are welcome to attend.

12. Daimon moved to adjourn 8:47 Mark Seconded