

Kingston Agricultural Commission  
Meeting Minutes February 16, 2023

Attendance: John Wheble, Jean Landis Naumann, Rui Santos, Beth Corbett, Karen Johnson, Meghan O'Neill

Guests: Deb Mueller, Animal Inspector

Meeting called to order at 7:04 by John Wheble

Minutes of 1/19/2023 approved (3-0)

John reported that he, Rui and Jean attended the February 6 meeting of the Board of Health where the proposed Non-commercial Farm Animals Regulation was discussed. Several residents attended and spoke to the need for these regulations. After discussion, the Board of Health voted to have a public hearing scheduled on the regulations. AgCom members were urged to attend the public hearing should there be any questions.

Deb Mueller reported that she met recently with the Police Chief regarding her current stipend amount. Her work has increased significantly and she is seeking an increase in the stipend. The Police Chief will make a recommendation to the Wage and Personnel Committee.

The members discussed future educational programs. Rui volunteered to make a presentation on chickens and Beth will make a presentation on making cheese from goat milk. John will check on room availability at the COA and work to schedule both programs in April and May. Jean urged the members to do a thorough publicity campaign.

Jean reminded members of the upcoming SEMAP annual conference and helpful newsletter. She also did a reminder about the Plymouth County Farm Bureau Legislative Breakfast March 17 in Halifax. There was a brief discussion about the importance of knowing and communicating with local state representatives and senators.

The members discussed possible new vendors for the September Ag Fair. Jean and Beth will reach out to 4-H contacts. John will ask the Marshfield Fair group for names of vendors at their event.

Jean mentioned the recent articles she distributing to the members on the bird flu and raising pigs in high rises in China. She also mentioned the national House and Senate Agricultural Committee. The new House chairman is from Pennsylvania. The current farm bill expires September 30 and includes provisions for SNAP (food stamps) which some are trying to cut funds.

The animal control officer was invited to the meeting but did not attend. Jean will extend the invitation to the next meeting.

The next meeting will be March 15. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Landis Naumann