

Kingston Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes April 27,2023

Attendance: Jean Landis Naumann, John Wheble, Christine Nava Moulthrop, Barry Mathias, Rui Santos, Beth Corbett Guests: Deb Mueller and Sheryl Antoine

John called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Rui made a motion seconded by Barry to accept the minutes from the 3/27/23 meeting. Passed

BOH Animal Regulations will be discussed at a public meeting on May 1, 2023 at 6:30. Town Hall Rm 200. Please attend if possible.

Current Ag Programs: 1) Beth and Kalina Vendetti are working on a goat cheese presentation. 2) Karen Wheble has friends that make maple syrup and John would love to have them do a presentation. 3) Idea was presented about a presentation to teach people how to cook local shellfish.

Rui's chicken presentation was well attended.

Report from Animal Inspector: Deb reported that her nomination was approved by the selectmen. She also reported that she attended the Southeast ACO meeting and mentioned our Ag Fair to them. Deb also contacted Sand O'Feeley about her braided rugs. Sandy is not interested in attending the fair but will donate a 2x3 rug. Deb will ask her if she is willing to supply contact info and we could set up a table for her. Deb also reported that health certificates are not needed to bring rabbits to the fair. Mike Cahill gave Deb info on vaccination requirements and the links are posted on the website. Deb will speak with Sue at the Rec Dept about pony rides for the fair. She also suggested reaching out to the Ag schools about having them participate in the fair.

John reported that he will not be able to attend the Ag Fair this year but will help with what he can.

Jean had an idea about a Garden Surplus Initiative. The thought was to set up a place for people to display their surplus veggies to share with the community. The library was suggested as a location.

Barry suggested sending a letter to the State Rep and the Farm Bureau about raising awareness to try to keep farms from being purchased by foreigners that may use the land to ship food/products overseas therefore leaving the USA in short supply.

It was noted that the library is advertising the seed sharing library. It seems to be doing well.

Jean attended the Plymouth County Breakfast and had a conversation with someone from SEAMASS about the fact that there are many organizations out there actively working to preserve farmland.

Motion made by Christine, Seconded by John to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Passed

Respectfully submitted by Christine Nava Moulthrop