

Brooklyn Agricultural Commission
Tuesday, August 22, 2017
7:00 PM
Town Hall

MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** – Chairperson, Lou Brodeur called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **Roll Call (5 Regular and 3 Alternates)**

Lou Brodeur, Chairperson; Charles Langevin, Vice Chairperson; Anne Ennis; Sandra Brodeur; Stanley Karro (arrived at 7:06 p.m.). Joyce Meader was absent.

III. **Seat alternates if necessary** - Sandra Brodeur was seated as a Voting Member.

IV. **Review minutes from June 27, 2017 Meeting**

Motion was made by C. Langevin to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2017, as presented. Second by A. Ennis. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

V. **Public Participation** – None.

VI. **Old Business:**

A. **Committee report for: “History of Agriculture in Brooklyn.”**

S. Karro had nothing to report.

B. **New sign is complete and needs to be put up on Gorman Road. We only ended up with one sign due to a miss understanding between Doug Gagnon and myself. I ordered 2 signs, thinking 2 signs. He figured one sign with 2 sides. So, we have a 2-sided sign which looks beautiful. Before we have another one made to place on route 6 just past Brooklyn Farm and Pet, we need to get a permit from the State to make things legal.**

L. Brodeur explained the miscommunication between Mr. Gagnon and himself. The cost for the one double-sided sign was \$400.00 (\$500.00 had been appropriated). Mr. Brodeur authorized Mr. Gagnon to build a frame for the sign for an additional \$280.00. This sign is to be put up on Gorman Road. There was discussion regarding the locations of both this sign and a second one that the Commission would like to put on Route 6 and the amount of traffic that would see them. There was also discussion regarding how many venders are participating. The Commission decided to see if it is feasible to expend the money on the second sign. L. Brodeur will check with Betsy tomorrow (August 23, 2017).

There was discussion regarding some signs that had been changed to say that it starts at 4:00 p.m. instead of at 3:30 p.m. and also that two signs are missing. L. Brodeur stated that with the two signs (Gorman Road and Route 6), maybe putting up signs every week and then taking them down can be eliminated.

It was suggested that a permanent sign be put up at the parking area, “Reserved on Wednesday Morning.”

Motion was made by S. Karro to increase the sign expenditure by \$180.00 (for a total of \$680.00). Second by A. Ennis. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

There was discussion regarding whether the Chairperson could be allowed to expend up to a certain dollar amount without getting prior approval by the Commission.

There was discussion as to whether the two signs (Gorman Road and Route 6), will be sufficient. The only road that wouldn't be covered is Route 169 going south. There was discussion regarding Town signs that have possibly been picked up by the State.

It was suggested that a sign for Route 169 (possibly at the Fairgrounds) could be discussed in a future budget.

C.Langevin and L. Brodeur will work on cementing the sign into the ground.

C. Walktober update?

A. Ennis reported that Agrimark will be donating cheese and learning supplies for the kids.

D. Sandy to update on Brooklyn Fair and if we are going to have a both or not this year.

A. Ennis confirmed that there is a spot for the Ag Commission. S. Brodeur and A. Ennis will set up tomorrow (August 23, 2017) at 6:30 p.m.

S. Brodeur reported that she will use the poster from Family Fun Day and she will put out the leftover bottles with beans for the kids.

E. South Brooklyn Solar project. No update at this time.

VII. New Business:

- A. Sally Timmons has moved to Stonington. She informed me that she is resigning as a member of the Ag Commission. We need to find someone to be an alternate member.

There is a question as to whether Sally Timmons has submitted a letter of resignation.

S. Brodeur read aloud a letter of resignation from Deborah Tanner.

Motion was made by C. Langevin to accept the resignations of Sally Timmons and Deb Tanner and to nominate Sandy Brodeur to be moved from Alternate Member to Full Member of the Agriculture Commission. Second by S. Karro. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Mr. Langevin expressed thanks to Ms. Timmons and Ms. Tanner for their valued contributions to the Agricultural Commission.

L. Brodeur will write a letter to the Selectmen notifying them of the resignations. He will also notify them of the change for S. Brodeur from Alternate Member to Full Member.

There was discussion regarding The Last Green Valley event on Sunday. No one will be attending.

B. Both of our Farmers' Market signs have disappeared and nobody knows where they are. We think possibly that the state has picked them up as illegal signs.

J. Meader had put the signs out on Wednesday, but did not pick them up. L. Brodeur and S. Brodeur saw them on Thursday and meant to pick them up after dinner, but forgot. They were gone on Friday. L. Brodeur will check with Rick Ives as he had suggested that Mr. Ives

call the Commissioner. L. Brodeur stated that, for now, they will hold off on replacing the two missing signs while trying to find out who picked them up.

There was discussion regarding the State and federal budgets as they relate to agriculture. Mr. Brodeur stated that, so far, he has not heard anything that would negatively affect agriculture.

C. Any other business to come before this meeting. – None.

VIII. Action Items for Next Meeting – No discussion.

IX. Adjourn (Next meeting September 26, 2017)

Motion was made by A. Ennis to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Second by S. Brodeur. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault
Recording Secretary