

Brooklyn Agricultural Commission
Tuesday, March 27, 2018
7:00 PM
Town Hall

MINUTES

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

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

Anne Ennis, Chairperson; Charles Langevin, Vice Chairperson; Lou Brodeur; Sandra Brodeur; S. Karro. J. Meader arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Also Present: Aaron Kerouac

III. Seat alternate if necessary – No Alternate seated for this meeting.

IV. Review minutes from Regular Meeting of February 27, 2018.

Motion was made by L. Brodeur to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 27, 2018, as presented. Second by S. Brodeur. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

V. Public Participation – None.

VI. Old Business:

- A. Committee report for: “History of Agriculture in Brooklyn.” – S. Karro stated that he does not have a report prepared. He would like to get input from some of the Town elders.

J. Meader arrived at 7:04 p.m.

- B. South Brooklyn Solar project. – No discussion.

- C. Killingly Advisory Appointment.

L. Brodeur had nothing to report other than that there will be a meeting in the spring.

- D. Discussion of possible suggestions to present to the PZC for Zoning Map changes.

J. Meader stated that it didn't look like there is anything that they need to be concerned about. Mr. Brodeur stated that Austin Tanner would let him know if there is anything that the Agriculture Commission needs to get involved in.

There was discussion regarding chickens.

Mr. Kerouac stated that the PZC's discussion regarding contractor's yards is not finished. He stated that farms are exempt no matter what and he pointed out that big equipment used on a farm is exempt. He doesn't think that all of the Members of the PZC are on the same page regarding this.

There was discussion regarding when Allen Hill Tree Farm applied for re-adaptive re-use of their green barn, they were told that they could only have a certain number of pieces of equipment outside. Mr. Langevin stated it is agricultural. Mr. Kerouac stated that conflict comes in when there is another type of business too. He gave an example of when the PZC was discussing farm stands: You're either a farm with a stand or you're a farm stand.

The Agricultural Commission decided to keep this item open.

VII. New Business:

A. Any other business to come before this meeting.

J. Meader asked if anyone was going to the Agvocate Regional Meeting on Thursday, March 29th. L. Brodeur and S. Brodeur are planning on going. J. Meader would like to go. A Ennis hopes to go. Mr. Brodeur stated that Ms. Ennis would need to give a report as Chairperson. She could report on the Walktober Event.

S. Brodeur stated that she would like to start thinking about preparing the location for the Brooklyn Fair before it gets busy with farming. She also mentioned that it would be good to start planning what kind of exhibit to have. A. Ennis may be able to get some stuff for the kids from Agri-Mart.

J. Meader stated that Katie Bogert wrote a book about Hillendale weavers. They made suits out of wool. People came from all over and they started serving them food and that is how the restaurant started.

Ideas for exhibits:

- Hillendale
- Allen Hill Tree Farm and what it is turning into now (winery) and a dairy farm in the past – Mr. Langevin will look for photos and will do more research regarding the history.
- Mr. Karro stated that the Finnish Hall has a lot of old photos of the region and poultry farmers (Pierce hatchery operation).
- There was discussion regarding whether Rudy or Don Francis would have anything to contribute.
- Ms. Ennis stated that he aunt or uncle may have some old photos. Fred may have movies.

J. Meader extended an invitation to her Summer Forage Series (5-month program). Maximize income over feed costs for any species, any product, all related to forage quality. There will be discussion groups with guest speakers. Ms. Meader will put it on the website and also Facebook.

Ms. Meader stated that there is a program on Saturday in Lebanon regarding solid ground trainings. She will send it to the Members.

VIII. Action Items for Next Meeting

IX. Adjourn (Next meeting April 24, 2018).

Motion was made by L. Brodeur to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Second by C. Langevin. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault
Recording Secretary