Brooklyn Agricultural Commission Regular Meeting - Hybrid Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:00 PM Clifford B. Green Meeting Center Suite 24, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn, CT

<u>MINUTES</u>

To join this meeting via the web or phone, follow the below instructions:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/tZctde2urjouHd K7AqCPJctXGM7Nettxm5z_/ics? icsToken=98tyKuGrrjkuHNSUtB6BRpwqAojoLO7ziH5bgqd2y z701BB5YRfOEc8VHLdrBMDd

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Meeting ID: 830 2460 1476 Passcode: 280750 One tap mobile +13126266799,,83024601476# US (Chicago) +16465588656,,83024601476# US (New York) Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 720 707 2699 US (Denver) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 830 2460 1476 https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kzwOgDrB0

- I. Call to Order Anne Ennis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
- II. Roll Call (5 Regular and 3 Alternates) Anne Ennis, Chair; Charles Langevin, Vice Chair; Lou Brodeur; Sandra Brodeur; Stanley Karro; Lachelle Rosinski (all were present in person).

Also Present: Austin Tanner, First Selectman (present via Webex). J.S. Perreault, Recording Secretary (present in person).

- III. Seat alternate if necessary None.
- IV. Review minutes: Regular Meeting of January 25, 2022

Motion was made by L. Brodeur to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 25, 2022, as presented.

Second by C. Langevin. No discussion.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote (5-0-0).

- V. Public Participation None.
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Work on a list of local farms for possible drone videos by Kory LeBlanc.

Mr. LeBlanc's pricing: \$75/hour – Filming \$50/hour – Editing Ms. Ennis reported that Mr. LeBlanc feels that he could visit 4 locations within 3-4 hours for approximately \$425 (video and editing). Ms. Ennis was not sure if this price was per farm. She will find out.

There was discussion about showing the variety of farming in Town. It was suggested that what each farm is about be included in the presentation of each farm. Ms. Ennis suggested that the owners of the farms speak with Mr. LeBlanc about what they would want included. They would need to either do the narrative themselves or provide someone else to do it.

The following were suggestions for the list: Ennis/Dairy; Pakulis/Brodeur; Allen Hill/Trees; Tanner/Bisson; Little Dipper Farm; another Tree Farm; Vineyards; Maple Sugar (if there are any still doing it); Tom Rukstela; Billy Carver; Wood/Loggers; Quacking Grass; Keith/Vegetables; Show Cows and Sheep (Tanner/Francis); Doug Kramer/Sheep and Cows.

There was discussion regarding farms that have sold their development rights which would be good to let the Town residents know.

There was discussion about showing activities during the different seasons. Mr. Karro suggested seeking guidance from the Last Green Valley and possibly incorporating them into it.

There was discussion regarding how the videos would be publicized. Ms. Brodeur stated that it would be posted on the Town's website. She suggested that spring and summer, if done soon, would be available for the Fair. Then, after fall and winter are done, it could all be put together. There were suggestions to put it on YouTube and Reels. Ms. Rosinski will help with this.

Ms. Brodeur will post information on the Brooklyn Ag Commission web page to see who would be interested to be put on the list which will be discussed at the April 26th meeting. Ms. Ennis will contact Mr. LeBlanc to see if he would be able to attend the April 26th meeting to give guidance.

b. Prepare a list of necessary steps to apply for approval of Inland Wetland Commission to put in new ponds on farmland and/or to dredge an existing pond.

S. Brodeur stated that the IWWC has decided that they do not have enough experience with farm ponds and will put together their own procedure. She asked if someone from the Ag Commission would watch for IWWC agendas containing this topic and attend those meetings to give input. Ms. Ennis will try to attend, if she is able.

VII. New Business:

- a. Review tentative prices for Kory LeBlanc drone work. See discussion under Item VI.a – Old Business.
- b. Discuss possibility of having a joint meeting with area Ag Commissions for April. No discussion.
- c. Any other new business to come before this meeting:
 - Stanley Karro reminded the Commission Members that, before COVID, a meeting with the Elders was being planned. He suggested a session to discuss Brooklyn history. Ms. Brodeur suggested getting together and recording the discussion. It will be planned for the May 24th Meeting of the Ag Commission as a small gathering at Mr. Langevin's Tree Farm at 3 p.m.

Suggestions for who to invite: Don Francis; Rudy Rzeznikiewicz; Charles Ennis; Roy Cathio; Stanley Karro; Lou Brodeur; Charles Langevin; John Harris. Ms. Brodeur will get addresses and send the invitations.

Mr. Langevin suggested inviting the Last Green Valley to chronicle the agricultural history of Brooklyn and he feels that they may use it as a template for other towns. Ms. Brodeur will contact them and also mention the drone idea. Mr. Brodeur feels that some grant money may be available.

- Ms. Brodeur explained that farmers may be misunderstanding the Zoning Regulations. She will try to address this on the website by letting the farmers know to contact someone on the Ag Commission for help. Mr. Brodeur will bring it up at the Selectmen's meeting.
- VIII. Public Participation None.
- IX. Action Items for Next Meeting.
 - Prepare a list of necessary steps to apply for approval of Inland Wetland Commission to put in new ponds on farmland and/or to dredge an existing pond.
 See discussion under Item VI.b – Old Business.
- X. Adjourn (Next meeting April 26, 2022).

Motion was made by C. Langevin to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Second by L. Brodeur. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault Recording Secretary