

Brooklyn Agricultural Commission
Informal Meeting - Discussion Only - Hybrid
Tuesday, April 26, 2022
7:00 PM
Clifford B. Green Meeting Center
Suite 24, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn, CT

MINUTES

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- I. **Discussion started** at 7:02 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call (5 Regular and 3 Alternates)** – Anne Ennis, Chair; Charles Langevin, Vice Chair; Lou Brodeur; Sandra Brodeur; Lachelle Rosinski (all were present in person). Stanley Karro and Sara Deshaies were absent with notice.

Also Present: Kory LeBlanc; J.S. Perreault, Recording Secretary (both were present in person).

Present via Zoom: None.

- III. Seat alternate if necessary – None.
- IV. Review minutes: Regular Meeting of March 22, 2022 – No discussion – no action taken.
- V. Public Participation – None.
- VI. Discussion regarding possible drone videos by Kory LeBlanc.

There was discussion with Mr. LeBlanc regarding which farms to showcase and what they would like to present for their messages: Kingswood Farm; Allen Hill Tree Farm; Creamery Brook Bisson; Brookside Farm; Pakulis Farm; and possibly Little Dipper Farm (if approved by PZC). They can send an audio file (MP3) to Mr. LeBlanc.

Possible themes discussed: History; Agriculture; Agri-tourism; and Seasonal. There was discussion regarding putting together seasonal “snip-its” of each of the farms to depict their year-round activities and also showing the workers.

There was discussion regarding possibly holding a special meeting early-to-mid May so that work may begin later in May to get started on seasonal videos.

Mr. LeBlanc needs to know ahead of time how long the total video will be so that he will know how long he has for each farm. Each farm needs to decide what they would like to show and come up with a script for their narrative. As far as the areas to be filmed, they can let Mr. LeBlanc know this information when he arrives.

There was discussion regarding what they would want to present at the Brooklyn Fair. Ms. Brodeur suggests that it play over and over to give all of those interested a chance to see the whole video.

There was discussion regarding whether releases would need to be obtained.

There was discussion regarding whether Mr. LeBlanc is insured. He can obtain liability insurance. He will look into whether it covers him if he were to get hurt on the property. He will report back on cost for insurance.

Pricing: \$75/hour and \$50/hour editing. Ms. Brodeur stated that extra money (possibly \$2,000) will be added to the Ag Commission's budget for next year for this project.

Mr. Brodeur spoke of the possibility of another drone project to promote properties for economic development.

Discussion regarding necessary steps to apply for approval by Inland Wetland Commission to put in new ponds on farmland and/or to dredge an existing pond.

Ms. Brodeur explained that if the IWWC is going to work on this, the Ag Commission should be involved.

Discussion on status of other nearby Ag Commissions.

- Canterbury – No members currently.
- Putnam – No Ag Commission.
- Killingly – 3 active and 1 alternate. Basically doing classes for the public – bee keeping, making bone broth, info about goats. One active member is leaving May 1st and another is talking about leaving.
- Plainfield – No meeting since December. Their Facebook page is very active. They have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow night, but there is no agenda.

Ms. Brodeur said that the area Ag Commissions are having difficulty finding things to do and she suggested that, after this drone project is complete, the Brooklyn Ag Commission, rather than disbanding, become an advisory Commission and schedule special meetings when needed as well as a yearly organizational meeting. There was agreement expressed among the Commission Members present.

VII. Public Participation – None.

VIII. Action Items for Next Meeting.

a. Start date for Kory LeBlanc to begin drone work.

IX. Adjourn (Next Regular Meeting May 24, 2022). There was discussion that this meeting is to be held at Allen Hill Tree Farm at 3:00 p.m. This meeting is to be an oral history of farming in Brooklyn with the Elders.

This informal discussion ended at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault
Recording Secretary