

Brooklyn Agriculture Commission
Tuesday, January 22, 2013
Brooklyn Town Hall

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Present: Lou Brodeur

Charles Langevin

2013 JAN 24 A 9:48

Joyce Meader

Stan Karro

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November minutes are under review until February meeting.

Brian Q. Mainville
TOWN CLERK, BROOKLYN CT

Old Business:

- Farm building tax exemption – draft ordinance being reviewed by lawyer
- Walktober – Engle Tree Farm will be asked by J. Meader (avoid 1st two Saturdays in Oct)
- USDA Farm & Ranch Lands Protection Program can provide 50% cost share for the conservation easement

New Business:

- Election of officers will be held in February, 2013
- New members needed, as well as alternates
- Canterbury Town Hall lobby holds a touch screen kiosk that shows the different town organizations/ history/ calendar (\$5000 grant from The Last Green Valley, with matching volunteer hours)
- Advocate Conference on Feb 23, 2013, 9-3 PM
- Connecticut Farm Energy Program Workshop on Feb 26th in Norwich 4-6 PM

Other: 2013 Budget request due:

Motion to purchase Edible Nutmeg subscription (CL, SK). Passed.
Motion to keep the budget the same as last year. (JM, SK) Passed

Next Meeting: Feb 26th, 2013

Action items: JM check with Engles for Walktober
JM check with USDA about FLP requirements

Adjourned: 8:00 PM

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Present: Lou Brodeur, Joyce Meader, Charlie Langevin
Guests: Bill Carver Jr, Ann Ennis, Josh King; Sally Timmons

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Minutes Motion to approve (CL, JM)

Sally Q. Timmons
TOWN CLERK BROOKLYN

Old Business:

Walkoctober: Apples will be picked by Joyce for walk

Cider will be picked up by Lou.

Sally will be making pumpkin muffins

Kingston Turf will be demonstrating cutting, irrigation system.

Chris Murphy invited??

Producer Forum: S. Timmons provided questions for commission to ask farmers.

Lou Brodeur will moderate the questions that the commission will choose (Sally will email to review).

Nov 19 Producer Forum on 7-9 PM

Community Garden: Gary Zurec plans to attend the meeting Sept 26th in Coventry.

New Business:

Barrett Hill Farm wishes to sell a conservation easement to protect the fields. J.

Meader questioned whether the fields were in production agriculture. The Brooklyn Conservation Commission's rating of the Barrett Hill Farm for open space preservation is another question needing an answer. Open space funds would need to be approved by the town for matching state dept of ag or dept of energy and environmental protection open space protection funds. C. Langevin moved to table the farm's request until these answers can be obtained. Seconded by J. Meader.

Other:

Brooklyn agriculture diversity being photographed by J. Meader and town farmers for power point presentation to be shown at town events on ACER touch panel computer.

C. Poirier emailed about the need for gleaning of surplus produce by volunteers for food pantry shelves.

B. Carver was encouraged to stop by the town hall to be sworn into the Ag Commission.

Adjourned: 8:30 PM

Sincerely,

Joyce e. Meader, Secretary