

Brooklyn Agricultural Commission
Tuesday, January 28, 2020
7:00 PM
Town Hall

- I. **Call to Order** - Anne Ennis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call (5 Regular and 3 Alternates)** – Anne Ennis, Chair; Charles Langevin, Vice-Chair; Lou Brodeur; Sandra Brodeur; Stanley Karro.
- III. **Seat alternate if necessary** – None.
- IV. **Review minutes:**
 - A. October 22, 2019

Motion was made by C. Langevin to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 22, 2019, as presented. Second by L. Brodeur. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

V. Public Participation

Sharon Hawes, Brown Road, spoke of her concerns regarding a tree farm on Brown Road that she feels may be dumping Christmas trees on other properties and possibly in White Brook (which she says is running backwards and, in the area where the culverts are, it is green and smells of pine). She showed photos to Commission Members. She has not spoken to the property owner. Mr. Brodeur suggested that she contact the IWWC with her concerns. If they are dumping trees on other people's properties, those property owners would need to file a complaint. Mr. Langevin suggested speaking and walking the property with the owner first to see if they can work it out. The owner may not be aware of the boundaries or that it is spilling into the brook. A woodchipper (which is very expensive and a lot of labor) is the best way to dispose of Christmas trees (goats also can be helpful). Ms. Hawes will approach the owner tomorrow to open communication. The Commission Members suggested that she get her topics of discussion organized beforehand.

VI. Old Business

- A. There was discussion regarding the Walktober Event and the Last Green Valley Event. Mr. Karro stated that it was very successful. Mr. Langevin thanked the Commission for sponsoring the coffee and refreshments. Bill Reid was well prepared and his presentation on the mills went well. Nick Ballentone was also well prepared and he had the group stop by the walls where he explained about the creation of the walls. It went about ½ hour longer than expected. Mr. Langevin stated that the Last Green Valley gathering attracted some local politicians. He is happy to have hosted the event. A nice time was had by all.
- B. Ms. Brodeur stated that she spoke with Pat Boyd about having the State Agricultural Department and the Farm Bureau meet somewhere in this area that could accommodate a large crowd. Mr. Karro suggested the Killingly High School. Ms. Brodeur will recommend it.
- C. There was discussion regarding Ms. Ennis applying to be on the Advisory Committee for the Killingly High School Ag Program. Mr. Brodeur attended the meeting last week and gave an update:
 - 43 students are enrolled this year (maximum is 60).
 - 5 of the students are from Brooklyn.
 - Next meeting will be in the fall. Ms. Ennis plans to attend.
 - They have not had to eliminate any programs.

- They put an ad in the Turnpike Buyer.
- Mr. Brodeur explained about the new aqua-culture program.

VII. New Business:

- A. Any new business to come before this meeting.
1. Purpose – No discussion.
 2. There was discussion regarding how the Recording Secretary will get Ms. Ennis to sign her invoices. The Commission Members were in agreement that invoices be signed by the Chair on the night of the meeting. Sandra Brodeur offered to submit the signed invoices to the Finance Department.
 3. There was discussion regarding a gathering of the elder members of the Community on March 19th (from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.) maybe at the Green Building: Rudy Rzeznikiewicz; Don Francis; Ennis family; Pakulis Farm; Roy Tappio; and others. Depending on how many people attend, a second meeting may be scheduled.
 4. There was discussion regarding Christmas trees. Mr. Langevin explained that this season was a challenge due to ice. He explained that there is a national shortage.
 5. Election of Officers

Motion was made by S. Karro to nominate A. Ennis to continue as Chair of the Brooklyn Agricultural Commission. Ms. Ennis accepted. Second by L. Brodeur. There were no other nominations. No discussion.

Motion was made by S Brodeur to close nominations. Second by L. Brodeur. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion to nominate A. Ennis as Chair of the Brooklyn Agricultural Commission carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion was made by A. Ennis to nominate C. Langevin to continue as the Vice Chair of the Brooklyn Agricultural Commission. Mr. Langevin accepted. Second by L. Brodeur. There were no other nominations. No discussion.

Motion was made by S. Brodeur to close nominations. Second by L. Brodeur. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion to nominate C. Langevin as Vice Chair of the Brooklyn Agricultural Commission carried unanimously (5-0-0).

VIII. Action Items for Next Meeting – None.

IX. Adjourn (Next meeting February 25, 2020).

Motion was made by L. Brodeur to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Second by S. Brodeur. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault
Recording Secretary