



TOWN OF WINSLOW AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of February 3, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Present: Chair Kate Newkirk; Acting Secretary Michael Heavener and Members; Sally Harwood (via Zoom), Rocky Gravel, Elery Keene, Jasmine Gregory and Parks and Rec Director Amanda McCaslin

Absent: Steve Russell

The Meeting opened at 10:12 a.m.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of January 6, 2022 – Rocky moved to accept the minutes at the next meeting.

Old Business:

1. Town Forest

a) Amanda reported that tree harvesting will begin next Monday which is sooner than expected. She has not received a signed contract yet but expects to have one before harvesting begins. Amanda will take pictures of the harvesting progress to document the process. The pictures can then be used to help educate the public about the Town Forest.

b) Amanda said the Public Works Director will be meeting with DOT to arrange to have "Trucks Entering" signs placed in the vicinity of the Town Forest.

c) Amanda added that when the tree harvest is complete, game cameras will be placed in the Town Forest which can be monitored live via a subscription service.

2. Srs of St. Joseph (80 Garland Rd Group)

a) Sally reported that the 80 Garland Rd Group are presenting a 3 part series on Permaculture via Zoom. The first part of the series is tonight and then on Feb 10th and 17th. The series is open to the public and is free.

- b) Sally said on March 28th, the Group will be doing a presentation on Biodiversity, which will be free and open to the public

Amanda said she will share the information with her Gardening Group and the school's Science Department.

- c) Sally went on to say that the Group has recently formed a "Gazebo Committee" to help make decisions on the design and placement of a shelter that can be used for education and meditation. The shelter would be open to the public as well.

New Business:

- 1. Browntail Moth

Kate reported that the Town of Winslow will be working with the City of Waterville to formulate a strategy to deal with the Browntail Moth

Jasmine said maine.gov (maine.gov/dacf/knockoutbtm) has a wealth of information on the Browntail Moth. She suggested that we direct the public to the website via our media sources.

Because the Town Manager, Erica, could not make the meeting to report on cooperative efforts on this issue with Waterville, she requested a separate meeting to follow-up on this issue. Kate will follow-up with Erica.

- 2. Budget – The commission voted to request a budget line of \$1,000 from the Town Council for the coming year. This would help cover past and future expenses incurred by the Agricultural Commission. (Rocky moved, Mike 2nd, all in favor)

Rocky moved to adjourn at 11:00 a.m., second by Jasmine, all in favor.

Next meeting is Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Michael Heavener, Acting Secretary