



TOWN OF WINSLOW AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of October 1, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Via ZOOM

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

Also Present:

Absent: Secretary Judy Mathiau; Members: Jasmine Gregory and Steve Russell

The Meeting opened at 10:05 a.m.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of September 3, 2021 – Rocky moved to accept the minutes as written, second by Sally, all-in favor.

Old Business:

1. Town Forest – Amanda reported that she, Jasmine and Rocky met as a Town Forest sub-committee to discuss the “next steps” which they identified as follows:
 - a. Contact CMP about Right-of-Way for the Parking Lot
 - b. Talk to abutting land owners about access
 - c. Meet with Harold about planning first harvest

Amanda went on to report that the local Game Warden reported that ATV vandalism was occurring in the area of the Forest. The Public Works Director, Rocky and Amanda met with the Game Warden at the Forest to discuss the matter.

After the meeting with the Warden; Rocky, Amanda and the PW Director (Paul) discussed a suitable location for a parking lot. Amanda said Paul identified his preferred location (Amanda shared a picture of the location). Paul added that the PW could do most of the work, which Amanda said could be used as an “In-Kind” match when applying for grant funds.

Rocky added that he spoke with abutting landowner Amus Shores about accessing the Forest through his property. He and Amus discussed meeting with the Forester to talk about where access is needed. Rocky said they will work towards getting a Right-of-Way from Amus.

Rocky spoke to another abutting property owner, Ethan Bessey, regarding using their property to access the Forest. The discussion will continue.

Rocky also spoke with CMP (Mr. Berry) about the location of the proposed parking lot. CMP will review the proposed site and will get back to Rocky.

The Commission discussed deploying “Game Cameras” at some point in the future to monitor activity in the Forest.

Rocky indicated he was going to explore the possible use of the Town’s Federal COVID funds for improvements in the Town Forest since it is for recreation.

2. Sisters of St. Joseph – A few members of the Commission have been visiting the property on the Garland Road, to continue discussions with Sister Judy regarding the use of their facility for community related activities.

A meeting will take place at the Sisters’ facility on October 6th at 11 a.m. for those interested.

New Business:

1. New Meeting Time – Kate pointed out that since the Town Office will not be open on Friday’s, the Commission will need to pick a new meeting time. The members present agreed to change the meeting time to **the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 am.**

Sally Harwood moved to adjourn at 10:43 a.m., second by Elery Keene, all in favor.

Next meeting is Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 10 a.m. via ZOOM.

Respectfully Submitted by

Michael Heavener, Acting Secretary