

The January 10, 2023, Regular meeting of the Agricultural Commission was convened at 8:03 p.m. by Chairman Chris Sorensen via WebEx,
Present: Chair Chris Sorensen, Vice Chair Andrea Urbano, Kristyna Hulland, Steve Munno, and Leland Torrence.
Present for staff: Geraldine Shaw, Clerk

MINUTES

The minutes of the December 20, 2022, meeting were approved.

GUEST - MICHAEL BURNS RE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX – CSG Section 14-1, Section 12-91

For personal reasons, Mr. Burns was not able to join the meeting. He will be asked if he would like to be on the February agenda.

RESOURCES/EDUCATION

The Commission discussed ways to disseminate information to prospective farmers, or those interested in cultivating even a small plot of land for personal use. Mentioned were various funding, grant, and education sources: The Agriculture Station in New Haven, U-Conn Agricultural/Environmental Programs, various grant opportunities, and support groups. Members spoke of the Commission's role as outlined in the ordinance creating the Commission.

The Commission Clerk will contact the Town's web master to ascertain the Town's policy re postings to the Commission's page.

LENGTH OF FARMLAND LEASES

Mr. Sorenson and Ms. Hulland are waiting for feed-back from more towns.

OUTREACH ARTICLE

Ms. Urbano will write an article for the March and November issues of the Woodbridge Town News. Article may include: information about the Agricultural Commission; links to grant information; state and federal assistance; Commission web page.

PRESENTATION TO BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Commission will ask to appear before the Board of Selectmen to outline the Commission's goals and to invite the members to tour the leased properties on April 22nd.

MEETING DATES

The Commission VOTED UNANIMOUSLY (Munno – Sorensen) to adopt the following meeting dates for the balance of 2023.

Tuesdays, January 10, February 21, March 14, April 11, October 11, November 14, December 12, and January 9, 2024.

JUMPING WORMS

Ms. Urbano or Mr. Munno will reach out to an appropriate person for information or a presentation on Jumping Worms.

ADJOURNMENT

On a non-debatable motion by Mr. Munno, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, the meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine S. Shaw, Clerk