



Town of Candia
Agricultural Commission
74 High Street
Candia, New Hampshire 03034

DRAFT MINUTES

June 6, 2024

Thursday 7:00 PM

Candia Town Hall

Commission Members present: Chair Matthew Cobb, Tom DiMaggio, Darrel Nafranowicz, Melissa Madden, Ron Howe. Excused: Robin Vergato, Joe Lamarche.
Madden, Alex Campbell, Richard Ascolillo.

Call to Order

- *Chair Matthew Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:06PM.
- *Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Commission Members and Alternates.

Public in Attendance

No public attendance.

Regular Business

- ***Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting May 2, 2024.**
-Moved by Tom DiMaggio and seconded by Melissa Madden, passed unanimously.

***Treasurer's Report**

-Treasurer's report was presented with deposits and expenditures for the Farmers Market, and interest, with a balance of \$9610.55. Approval of the Treasurer's report was Moved by Tom DiMaggio and seconded by Melissa Madden, passed unanimously.

Old Business

***Candia Farmer's Market (CFM) Update**

- Melissa Madden provided an update of the status of the plans for our June Market. Lawn maintenance to be completed. Ken Madden cut down the tree by the gazebo and removed the old thorn bush to the right of the gazebo. There is still poison ivy in part of the grass. Signs will be posted.

There are 46 vendors lined up for June and 48 for July. Tom DiMaggio asked if the Conservation Commission would have a booth as Judy had reached out to him. Melissa Madden confirmed that the Conservation Commission was scheduled for June and they would need to bring their own tent/canopy, which Tom DiMaggio said he could supply.

The Children's Business Fair will have 7 vendors. Extra tables will be needed, various members will supply extra tables. Ron Howe has a number of plants left over from his greenhouse which he will bring to the Market. He will have 6 packs of flowers for the kids to repot for one of the kids' activities.

Community Table (CT) will have wholesale mustard, lobsters, fish from the Daily Haul, Reginald's Honey, Sunflower Oil.

Additional signs will be posted 1 at the Cobbs and 107 # & 43. Tom DiMaggio will post at New Boston Rd & 43.

New program Pattie Davis will be running the Young Farmers Club. Each month will have a different animal and activity (i.e. pollination and planting a flower). Each child will get a punch card that will get a punch for each month they attend. They will receive a gift/prize at the end of the season for attending all 5 Markets.

Pattie Davis will also be working with the kids on Living Necklace's which has a seed that is soaked in a cotton ball, then put into a little bag and is made into a necklace. The idea that when the seed sprouts the child can then plant the sprout. Pattie Davis advised she would need seeds, cucumbers, beans sunflowers seeds peas. Multiple members volunteered to supply, though Tom DiMaggio believed he would be able to supply them all.

Melissa Madden presented a letter to the Commission that she recommended be sent to all the town boards inviting them to attend the Farmers Market. All agreed with this proposal and Chair Matt Cobb advised he would get those sent out.

Melissa Madden and Pattie Davis asked for the Commission to approve an additional \$1000 for Veteran gift certificates at the July Market as they did not want to turn any Veteran down if we hit 100. We agreed not to advertise that we were giving out 150 gift certificates. However, the additional funds would prevent an issue with having to turn someone away. Approval of the additional funds of \$1000, for a total of \$3000 to be used towards the Veterans Gift Certificates in July was Moved by Darrel Nafranowicz and seconded by Tom DiMaggio, passed unanimously.

Melissa Madden also advised that the Market Management team had met with the 2nd board, the Farmers Market Committee, to review all the policies and procedures in the event their services are needed.

***Lecture Series**

- The Bird Lecture was well attended, approximately 20 people attended. The speaker provided a lot of stats and good information.
- Chair Matt Cobb advised that in the next month or two, we will need to start discussing and deciding on the lecture series for next year. Two ideas were presented: 1) How to Make Pasta and 2) Hydroponics.

***Bran Program Update**

- No update provided – Ken Madden was absent.

***Old Home Day**

-The Commission has sent in to reserve a spot. Chair Matt Cobb advised that Joe Lamarche was putting old farming items together, to have something like a mini display. It was discussed that Deerfield is building a museum for old farm equipment. Chair Matt Cobb states we need to concentrate on what our organization does, suggested a poster board outlining what we do. Also having unique older items and have people guess what they are for prizes. Melissa Madden will put together a Flyer for the Agriculture Commission.

***School Agriculture Day**

- Moose School is still planning to hold the School Agriculture Day in 2025. The school is planning to offer Meg a stipend to run the program. The school principal Becky Wing seems interested in the idea.

New Business

-No new business

Public Comment

-No Public comments.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2024, Thursday at 7:00PM.

Adjournment

*Chair Matthew Cobb adjourned the meeting at 7:40PM, moved by Melissa Madden, seconded by Tom DiMaggio, all in favor unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by, Darrel Nafranowicz for Robin Vergato, Secretary