



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

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**July 11, 2024**

**Thursday 7:00 PM**

**Candia Town Hall**

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

Commission Alternates present: Debra Cobb, Pattie Davis, Ken Madden, Alex Campbell, Richard Ascolillo.

**Call to Order**

\*Chair Matthew Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:07PM.

\*Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Commission Members and Alternates.

**Public in Attendance**

No public attendance.

**Regular Business**

**\*Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting June 6, 2024 with edit.**

-Moved by Melissa Madden and seconded by Tom DiMaggio, passed unanimously.

**\*Treasurer's Report**

-Treasurer's report was presented with deposits and expenditures for the Farmers Market, and interest, with a balance of \$6308.81. Withdrawal of \$3000 for the Market Vouchers for Veterans. A \$40 deposit made July 11<sup>th</sup> will show up on next month's report. \$250 is coming in for the sponsorship of music from the June market. Additional expenditures of approximately \$790.00 anticipated by year's end for the CFM. Approval of the Treasurer's report was Moved by Ken Madden and seconded by Tom DiMaggio, passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

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

- Melissa Madden shared the loss to one of our highly valued vendors at Red Gate Farm, John Pogorek. We have offered to run their booth for them at the July Market, which they have since turned down. The National Guard has been assisting Red Gate since their loss and helping

care for and run the farm. The market will hold their space and dedicate the July Market in memory of John Pogorek.

The CFM post regarding our Market Vouchers for our Veteran's has reached 43,000. We are expecting a larger attendance in July. Parking remains an issue. There is plenty of parking at Moore School. More volunteers needed to direct parking to the school.

Melissa Madden recommended the commission consider purchasing an enclosed trailer for the transportation and storage of the Farmers Market supplies that are transported to each market. There was discussion that the Agriculture Commission is not allowed to own real property and whether a trailer constitutes real property. The commission wishes to verify if the commission can legally own a trailer. Insurance was discussed. Insurance follows the vehicle towing the trailer. The commission does not wish to have first party coverage on the trailer. We anticipate no more than \$1000 in additional expenses through the end of the year. Tom DiMaggio made a motion to purchase a trailer for the farmers market not to exceed \$3,500 pending legal review of the necessary approval process, seconded by Ken Madden, passed unanimously.

The SNAP issues are all resolved, we have the new machine that is working correctly. Melissa will handle training. Additional volunteers are needed for the market.

Jenny Gardner has a Horseshoe Christmas tree that she offered for raffle. We are unable to charge for a raffle. The July theme is Christmas and she can place a sale sign on the tree should anyone be interested in purchasing the tree. It was suggested that we decorate the tree.

September's theme is Applefest and we will be having an apple pie baking contest. The contestants are ages 9 and up. We are planning an apple eating contest for the children 8 and under. We have one judge lined up. Pattie Davis is attempting to retain the NH Dept of Agriculture Commissioner, Shaun Jasper, as one of the judges. Lynn Garland who assisted us in the planning is a potential judge. We would also like to ask for a volunteer from the Board of Selectmen to be one of our judges.

CFM was again voted the WINNER of the Union Leaders Readers' Choice award for 2024. **#1 Farmers Market**

#### **\*Barn Program Update**

- No new applicants. All forms have been completed. Forms will be going to the Selectmen for approval at the next selectman's meeting.

#### **\*Old Home Day**

-The Commission has reserved a spot. Joe Lamarche is collecting older framing equipment. Carlton has quite a bit of old farming equipment and we would like to have him do a display and "show and tell" about the equipment.

#### **\*School Agriculture Day**

- No new information

#### **New Business**

-No new business

#### **Public Comment**

-No Public comments.

**Next Meeting:** Aug1, 2024, Thursday at 7:00PM.

**Adjournment**

\*Chair Matthew Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:05PM, moved by Ken Madden, seconded by Tom DiMaggio, all in favor unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted by, Darrel Nafranowicz for Robin Vergato, Secretary**