



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

DRAFT MINUTES

March 6, 2025

Thursday 7:00 PM

Candia Town Hall

Commission Members present: Chair Matthew Cobb, Darrel Nafranowicz, Melissa Madden, Ron Howe.
Excused: Robin Vergato, Tom DiMaggio. Joe Lamarche
Commission Alternates present: Debra Cobb, Ken Madden, Alex Campbell, Pattie Davis. Excused:
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 January 2, 2025 with edit.**
 - Moved by Melissa Madden and seconded by Ron Howe, passed unanimously.
 - Note, the February 2025 meeting was cancelled due to weather issues.
- ***Treasurer's Report**
 - Treasurer's report was presented with a balance of \$8657.51. Additional deposits were made that are not reflected in this total for vendor fees and a sponsorship donation. Further, two additional tents were purchased for the market that are not reflected in this total and will be reflected in the April report. Approval of the Treasurer's report was Moved by Ken Madden and seconded by Ron Howe, passed unanimously.

Old Business

- * **Farmer's Market budget for 2025**
 - The proposed budget for 2025 is \$7351.00. A comparison of our budget and expenditures for 2024 was presented. The Budget for 2024 was 4865.00, with total expenditures of \$9159.64 (4294.64 over budget). Subsequent to the previous year's budget

submission, the commission approved the Veterans' Bucks and the purchase of a trailer for the market. The 2025 budget includes the Veteran's Bucks, additional signs, and additional reusable bags. Music will be higher in cost this year as well. Approval of the Framers Market budget for 2025 was Moved by Ron Howe and seconded by Matt Cobb, passed unanimously.

***Framers Market Update**

- Volunteers are needed! Even for small jobs, any assistance will be helpful. For example, we need someone in charge of signs being put out on Sunday before and then picked up after the market on Saturday. It can be 2 different people. Help is needed with set up on Friday night. Volunteer for picking up produce at local farms. Volunteer for the Children's Business Fair. Suggestions were made as to potential candidates to run the Children's Business Fair. Sunfox Farm in Deerfield has signed up to be a vendor. We have a new farm vendor, Nerdy Turnip Farm, that makes ice cream. Additional breweries and wineries are needed for October. Tractor Supply will be approached as a possible sponsor.

***Agricultural Day – Presenters List**

- Meg Morenz provided a list of all the presenters from the last Ag Day – see attached reviewed list. Meg will be at the next commission meeting on April 3rd with Tamsyn Walker and Kathleen Neville (two teachers taking over the Ag Day in 2027). It was agreed to exclude birds due to the Avian virus. There are 20 confirmed presenters and 18 possible additional presenters. There are a number of other presenters they are interested in identifying. Small animals such as rabbits, Fish and Game, Hatcheries, Conservation Commission Beeswax Candles, Weaving, Microgreens, Water works, Master gardener.

***Lecture Series**

- February Lecture on Invasive Plants, presented by Gregory Jordan was well received, interactive and very informative. 13 in attendance.
- March Lecture – Corp Pest identification and treatment

***Barn Program Update**

- the process is complete. All but one re-enrolled. The process required the applicants to come in and sign 2 different times. However, the deed is for 10 years. Ken Madden plans to have a better presentation at the Farmers Market to draw more attention to the program. Suggested pictures of the various barns in Candia.

***Upcoming terms and Positions**

- Alex Campbell has been recommended to move from an alternate position to a voting member position. Matt Cobb will be attending the selectman meeting to support the approval of her appointment as a voting member. This will leave one open alternate position to be filled.

Public Comment

-No Public comments.

Next Meeting: April 3, 2025, Thursday at 7:00PM.

Adjournment

*Chair Matthew Cobb adjourned the meeting at 7:58PM, moved by Ken Madden, seconded by Ron Howe, all in favor unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by, Darrel Nafranowicz for Robin Vergato, Secretary