

**Durham Agricultural Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 21st, 2016
7:00 pm, 3rd floor Meeting Room, Town Hall**

Note: The 3rd floor Meeting Room was occupied. Therefore, the AgComm meeting was held at the picnic table outside Town Hall.

Members: Fred Mastele, Warren Herzig, Melissa Dziurgot, Roger Passavant

Alternates: Joe Pasquale

Seating: Joe Pasquale was seated for David Zemelsky

1. Meeting was called to order by Fred Mastele at 7:04 pm and roll call was taken.
2. Motion was made by Joe Pasquale and seconded by Warren Herzig to accept the June 21st, 2016 Meeting Agenda. Passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment. There was no public comment.
4. Old Business.

Guilford Road Properties

Roger reported that he had not yet made the changes to the Plan, that Dick Porter had requested. He will make the changes for the next meeting. It was decided that we would hold off on the vote again to allow for these changes to be made, and also to have the vote when more commission members were in attendance.

Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)

Joe reported that the Board of Selectmen would be holding a Public Meeting on June 27th, 2016 to present and discuss the newly completed POCD. He also reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission would also be holding a Public Hearing on July 17th, 2016 for the same purpose.

Durham Grown Signs

The Ag Commission still needs to plan a time to meet with the Board of Finance to request the additional funding for the new signs.

5. New Business

Legislative Updates

Melissa reported that, due to the poor state of the Connecticut economy, there are concerns in regards to possible additional cuts to the Community Investment Act as well as to Farm Viability Grants.

Planning and Zoning Regulations

Joe reported that the P&Z was looking into Agricultural Regulations in regards to how they may apply to such entities as wineries, banquet halls and events such as concerts. There was a long conversation about this among the Ag Commission members. It was concluded that perhaps P&Z should contact local farms directly to get their input on the matter as one part of developing appropriate regulations.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:58 pm by Joe Pasquale and seconded by Warren Herzig.