

Effingham Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes May 23, 2012

Present: AnnMarie Sargent, Deb Potter, Barbara Thompson

Absent: Tom Thompson, Bill Piekut

The meeting was called to order at 7:10.

Minutes: Deb moved and AnnMarie seconded to accept the minutes of April 25th as presented. The motion passed.

There was no public comment.

Correspondence: None

Old Business

- Membership:
 - Warrant article – The commission will generate a general request letter asking the Planning Board to draft a warrant article to reduce the number of alternates for the Ag Comm to 2 and submit it at a regular meeting.
 - Deb will invite Michelle Elliot to attend one of our meetings. She has expressed a possible interest in becoming a member.
 - Barbara will check in with Bill to see if he plans to stay on the commission as an alternate.
 - Dave Nicholson – Barbara drafted an email requesting a reply on his status. AnnMarie will follow up with a phone call.
- Composting at the Transfer Station–The Town has no equipment to manage a compost pile, so it was decided to table this item until November to see how, or if, the Transfer Station changes.
- Mapping – Those present went over the maps that Deb brought. We will wait for more members before working on an overlay. The maps have been put in the annex closet for safe keeping.
- Resource list – In discussing a notice drafted by Barbara for inclusion on the Outdoor Market Facebook page, the question arose as to whether we can tailor the notice for the Ag Comm page on the Town's website. Since this is a list promoting commercial businesses, Barbara will check with Theresa to see if this is allowed. In the meantime, Barbara will forward the notice to Deb for the Facebook page.
- Town Website – No one has any idea how the Ag Comm page on the Town website should be set up and what should be included. Barbara will check with Theresa to see if there is an outline for all the boards to use in setting up their pages.
- Signage – A decision was reached to table this until November for further discussion.

New business:

Other Business: Publications

- County Ag Fair Day – The extension service emailed an application for CC Farm Day July 28th. The group agreed we should have a booth with Ag Comm awareness information, resource list of farmer's markets and other Ag Comms and other information. Deb has the info board used at town meeting. There are only 2 categories listed on the application; farmer's market and commercial. We don't fit either one so AnnMarie will call to find out how we should fill in the

application. It was decided to have a work session June 12th at 1:00 pm at Deb's house on 230 Town House Rd. to determine what will be in the booth. The application is due June 28th.

- Meeting times – Barbara made a motion to change our meeting times to benefit the farmers on the board as follows: Motion to change the regular meeting time from 7:00pm every month to 7:00 pm May through October and 6:00 pm from November through April. The meetings to be held at the Municipal Office Building. Deb seconded. The motion carried. Barbara will post the new schedule at the MOB.

AnnMarie moved and Deb seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm..

Minutes prepared by Barbara Thompson

These minutes are considered draft until approved at a regular meeting of the Agricultural Commission. Any corrections will be noted in the next meeting minutes.