

Farm and Forest Commission

July 7, 2023 Minutes

Present: Jennifer Peotter, Matt Barron, Tevis Robertson-Goldberg, Brooke Bullock; Absent: Kim Sarafin

Meeting started at 7:10 pm

May 18, 2023 minutes were approved.

Old Business

1. Right to Farm signage: Matt presented updated quotes for Right to Farm signage and overall size. Highway department did not offer guidance on sign size, however it was agreed that the large size, 36x24" would be appropriate for Rte 143 placement and smaller signs, 24x15" would be suitable for the local roads. Matt will gather updated quotes and Jennifer will forward updated recommendations to the Selectboard for addition to the next Town Meeting Warrant option.
2. Listing of Farm Producers: Chesterfield Farm Producers list is posted on the Town website and Committee discussed bumping it to the front page and promoting it on the town Facebook page. Brooke will followup with Brenda.
3. Designated Farmland of local importance approval by USDA/NRCS was reviewed.
4. Changes to the Farm Forest Commission Board: Jennifer drafted proposed changes for the Selectboard which include shifting Brooke to a regular position and adding Jon Parrot as an alternate. Board approved and will be submitted for consideration.

New Business

1. The "Hazard Mitigation Plan Relating to Drought" topic was brought to the Commission by John Follett. Farm Commission is an appropriate informal connection point for farmers struggling with drought, flooding and climate crisis, however there was not awareness of grant funding that could be pursued. Jennifer will follow up with John.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Next Mtg: September 21, 2023, 7pm at the Community Center