

**Town of Colchester  
Agriculture Commission Minutes  
September 19, 2022  
Meeting via Zoom  
Time 7:30 pm**

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2022 SEP 20 AM 11:21  
*Gayle Furman*  
GAYLE FURMAN  
TOWN CLERK

**Members Present:** Donna Rosenblatt, Carla Roselli, Leslie Curtis, Tim Francis  
Please note, Leslie Curtis left @7:12pm due to a power outage at her home

**Members Absent:**

**Alternates Present:**

**Alternates Absent:** Dave Wasniewski

**Liaison Present:** Rosemary Coyle

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Donna Rosenblatt, Chair, 7:30

**2. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:** Due to meeting time change from scheduled 6:30pm, additions/changes not allowable.

**3. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Several students attended: Audrey, Austin, bri, Julia Barron Boekweg, Julian, Michelle Jolly, student, Vivian.

Tim Francis spoke as a citizen briefly on an issue at his farm. He had been notified in writing that his manure pile was closer to a designated wetlands area than the 350 feet required. He had not been able to contact Carol Szymanski at her desk to reconcile this issue. Tim wanted additional guidance as to the location of the manure pile. Carol was available at this meeting, and they were able to arrange for a meeting at 10:00am on Wednesday, September 21.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approve the Minutes of the January 19, 2022 Agriculture Commission Meeting. Motion Carla Roselli. Approve: Carla Roselli, Donna Rosenblatt, Tim Francis.

**5. PRESENTATION:** Carol Szymanski, the new Wetlands Agent for the Colchester Planning and Zoning Commission, provided a Power Point presentation regarding suggestions for Agritourism projects. Carol also presented a brief, informative presentation defining what wetlands are and how they are beneficial to community welfare. Carol included a handout available in the agenda for 09/19/22.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:** Donna Rosenblatt presented the proposed meeting schedule for 2023. Committee members were encouraged to review the dates for discussion and ratification at the next Agriculture Committee meeting. Additional discussion at this meeting showed agreement that the meeting time should be changed to 7:30pm.

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**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) None of the Town meetings recently have included farm concerns per all members present.
- b) Carla Roselli reported that the CT Grown application for funding for agricultural curricula in educational facilities is once again available this year. Carla has reserved all her research and copies of the application, and the Letter of Intent from the First Selectman. We will request that a new copy of the Letter of Intent will be put on the Board of Selectmen Consent Agenda at the next meeting so Carla can proceed with the new application.
- c) Donna Rosenblatt reported that she will be contacting the Interim School Superintendent, Thomas McDowell to request assistance from Bacon Academy's Acting Principal, Charles Hewes to attempt to get IT assistance from the faculty and students at Bacon Academy on the establishment of an Agritourism website. Carol Szymanski indicated she would like to be an additional resource for Agritourism ideas.

**9. ADJOURN:** Carla Roselli motioned the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Tim Francis. Meeting adjourned at 7:58.

Respectfully Submitted by: Donna Rosenblatt, Agriculture Commission Chairman  
performing volunteer Secretary duties