

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

Gayle Furman
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TOWN CLERK
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2023 MAR 16 AM 8:37

Members Present: Donna Rosenblatt, Carla Roselli, Tim Francis, Leslie Curtis

Members Absent:

Alternates Present:

Alternates Absent: Dave Wasniewski

Liaison Present: Rosemary Coyle

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Donna Rosenblatt, Chair, 7:33
2. **ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:** Due to meeting time change from scheduled 6:30pm, additions/changes not allowable.
3. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Bernie Denner
4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
Approve the Minutes of the October 24, 2022, Agriculture Commission Meeting.
Motion Leslie Curtis. Second Carla Roselli Approve: Unanimous
5. **CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS:** Donna Rosenblatt spoke briefly regarding the supreme court case, Sackett vs. EPA regarding wetlands issues and the Clean Water Act. She encouraged the Commission generally to follow this case. Donna indicated that the "pumpkin drive" had gone well, and there were still pumpkins available.
6. **NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion regarding the post-holiday Christmas Tree collection implementation. Carla Roselli had submitted a request last year, and volunteered to resubmit this request with her address and Donna Rosenblatt's address as drop off points.

Carla brought up an additional issue regarding the "Farm Spotlight" that has been on the First Selectman's Blast recently. This spotlights Colchester farms. Carla's farm, Timberdoodle, was highlighted, but her address was included, even though she expressly asked that it not be included. Although Carla sells goats, she is only open by appointment, and her goat sales are usually arranged via down payment.

Realizing this was a privacy issue, Rosemary Coyle indicated she would call Town Hall and institute privacy guidelines for the Farm Spotlight.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) None of the Town meetings recently have included farm concerns per all members present.

b) Carla Roselli has not heard from the CT Grown Kids application committee. The application was successfully submitted on 11/15.

c) Donna Rosenblatt reported that she has completed the introduction for the Agritourism Webpage and has requested that it be installed. She has several farm websites and Face Book pages that can be put on the webpage right away as links.

d) Donna Rosenblatt reported on the active Livestock Foodbank program. Fliers have been distributed, the First Selectman included the program on his “blast” prior to Thanksgiving and last week, there was an article about the Foodbank on the front page of the River East newspaper.

Response has been very steady, and farmers are beginning to take advantage of the donated foodstuffs.

9. ADJOURN: Leslie Curtis motioned the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:56.

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