

Lebanon Conservation and Agriculture Commission
Regular Meeting, 12/4/17
Lebanon Town Hall, 579 Exeter Road
Meeting Minutes

Members present: Marc Lang (Chair), Jan Fitter (Vice Chair), Alton Blodgett, Keith LaPorte,
Emery Gluck, Ethan Stearns, Toni Willard
Members absent: Jon Slate, Paul Trubey, Bradley Wieczorek
Also present: Town Planner Philip Chester

Meeting called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Marc Lang.

Motion by Alton Blodgett, seconded by Jan Fitter, to approve the 11/6/17 meeting minutes.
Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chester updated the Commission on the Geer and Wolf property appraisals, and USDA funding for Bender and McCall properties. Town Meeting will need to be asked to provide matching funds for the Bender and McCall projects early next year. Waller Smith & Palmer is unable to assist the town in preparing the Bender conservation easement. The Commission recommends using Attorney Pat Prue. Mr. Chester and Jan Fitter will be discussing progress on the Leone and McCall farmland preservation projects with CT Farmland Trust on Thursday.

A Farm Viability Grant application was submitted to the Department of Agriculture in November for funding for the farmers market, Commission newsletter, farmland preservation appraisals, and a Middle School greenhouse. The town should hear on this grant by February.

The Commission recommended that Marc Lang reach out to Raymond and Mary Manning to discuss farmland preservation options for their property on Chappell Road.

Keith LaPorte recommended that the Commission prepare a short article on the emerald ash borer with options for landowners in Lebanon Life.

Motion made by Jan Fitter, seconded by Keith LaPorte, to request \$250 for the FY 2018-19 budget. Motion unanimously approved.

Christian Joseph from Prides Corner Farms will attend the January 8th Commission meeting to give an update on their Pease Brook and Hoxie Brook water quality monitoring.

The Commission would like to work with DPW to find a solution to ATV access to Schalk Road/Common Hills Trail.

The Commission adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Philip Chester, Town Planner
December 5, 2017