

Lebanon Conservation and Agriculture Commission
Regular Meeting, 2/6/17

Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 4:32 p.m. by Marc Lang

Members present: Marc Lang, Emery Gluck, Jon Slate, Keith LaPorte, Alton Blodgett, Toni Willard, Bradley Wieczorek (Lyman High School Rep.)

Members absent: Jan Fitter, Oliver Manning, Howard Wayland

Also present: Town Planner Philip Chester

Joshua Trust representatives Acquisition Chair Warren Church, Incoming President Karen Zimmer and Executive Director Michael Hveem were present to discuss future collaborative planning efforts, the Trusts' strategic planning activities and volunteer opportunities for Commissioners.

Ethan Stearns, 256 Village Hill Road, was present to discuss his farming efforts, which include expanding farming activity on property, acquiring neighboring dormant farmland and farmland preservation.

Motion by Keith LaPorte, seconded by Alton Blodgett, to approve the 1/9/17 meeting minutes. Approved, with Marc Lang abstaining.

Mr. Chester reported on correspondence with The Nature Conservancy related to the former Carnwarth Tobacco St. property; scheduled DPW work on Randall Rd; Lebanon Farmers Market planning; Earth Day activities; the Commission's Feb. 15th co-sponsor of session on managing risk related to agritourism in Franklin; and POCD status report.

Motion made by Alton Blodgett, seconded by Jon Slate, to recommend to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance the acceptance of a \$15,500 Department of Agriculture Farm Viability Grant for use at the Farmers Market, Commission newsletter and farmland preservation property appraisals. Motion unanimously approved.

Monitoring for the Champagne, Gluck and Fischer property are still to be conducted. The Commission will add the Jonathan Green (Tobacco Street) subdivision conservation easements to their monitoring list.

The Commission asked for a copy of the DEEP Diversion of Water Permit 201611909 for Prides Corner Farms.

The Commission adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Philip Chester, Town Planner on 2/6/17