

Lebanon Conservation and Agriculture Commission
Regular Meeting, 12/3/18
Lebanon Town Hall, 579 Exeter Road
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members present: Jan Fitter (Vice Chair), Emery Gluck, Keith LaPorte, Toni Willard, Jon Slate, Alton Blodgett, Ethan Stearns, Chris Condit, Paul Trubey
Absent: Marc Lang (Chair), Michael Wolf
Also present: Town Planner Philip Chester

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Jan Fitter. Paul Trubey was activated as a voting member.

Motion by Keith LaPorte, seconded by Alton Blodgett, to approve the 11/5/18 meeting minutes. Motion unanimously approved.

Joseph Christian from Prides Corner Farm discussed the upcoming monitoring of Hoxie and Pease Brooks, and plans for a new 2.5-acre propagation facility on Waterman Road.

Mr. Chester updated the Commission on the winter farmers market; town DEEP Recreation Trails Program Grant application for the Airline Trail; town Dept. of Agriculture Farm Viability Grant application for 2019 farmers market advertising, ConsAG newsletter, POCD resident survey, and POCD cost of community services study; farm photo display for downstairs at Town Hall; and the four (4) farmland preservation projects (Bender, Wolf, Geer, McCall).

The Commission discussed open space capital planning and Commission operating budget.

Motion by Jan Fitter, seconded by Paul Trubey, to request that \$100,000.00 annually be allocated to the Open Space Account over the next five (5) fiscal years in conformance with the POCD. Motion approved 6-0-1, with Ethan Stearns abstaining.

Motion by Jan Fitter, seconded by Paul Trubey, to request a \$250.00 operating budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20. Motion unanimously approved.

The Commission recommended that Mr. Chester contact the Dept. of Agriculture to request that the State's 2012 Preserved Farmland Map be updated.

Motion by Jan Fitter, seconded by Alton Blodgett, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that up to \$1,000.00 be spent from the Open Space Account to conduct an appraisal on the Wells Community Forest properties located in Lebanon. Motion unanimously approved.

The Commission adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next regular Commission meeting is January 7, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by Philip Chester, AICP, December 3, 2018