



Minutes for Agriculture Committee meeting Thursday, June 9, 2022 Via Zoom:

Joe Rogers, associate member
Steve Verrill, member, Verrill Farm
Brian Cramer, Hutchins Farm
Liza Bemis, co – chair, Hutchins Farm
Dan Schmid, clerk, The Walden Woods Project Farm
Grace Scimone, associate member, Scimone Farm
Melissa Maxwell, co-chair. Barrett’s Mill Farm
Lise Holdorf, Barrett’s Mill Farm
Happy Goethert, member, Scimone Farm
Lois Suarez, Visitor

Call to order 7:05pm. Liza chaired the meeting.

1. **Review Minutes:** None to review right now
2. **News about Concord Farms and Farmers:** Verrill’s pick your own strawberries have started. Discussion about problems in the strawberries.
3. **Quick Concord Farms Video Part 2 update:** May filming at Barrett’s Mill did happen, Tory and Dan are going to connect about June filming at Walden.
4. **Ag Day update:** Melissa will follow up with volunteers at Minuteman High School and will approach Stone Soup about money for posters and promo materials. Liza will find out how much we spent last year. Liza will get Abby Cramer to update the plywood signs with the correct date. Liza will make a list of all farm poster locations we had last time so we can get budget numbers prepared for Stone Soup. Should the fee for Farms increase to \$30 this year? Put to a vote: Yays were unanimous and new fee was approved. The Concord Housing Foundation would like to be included this year at Ag Day, Liza will add to her outreach list. Liza and Happy will work on Bookstore display planning and tracking down objects.
7. **New Co-Chairs/Clerk:** It’s hard to change positions in the middle of Ag Day planning, it was decided to move this discussion to after Ag Day is over and maybe have new chairs/clerks change then.
8. **Article 37 passed at town meeting – discussion on impact on farms? This is the Checkout Bag 10 cent charge to be added:** Lengthy discussion on how farms would be impacted and possible work arounds, including will the new law mean all paper bags or just handled paper bags. Steve brought up possibly making a stamp that could be stamped on bags as a way to deal with the receipt requirement. It was decided Liza would draft a friendly letter to the board of health asking for possible work arounds for farms.
9. **Other Business:** none.
10. **Public Comment:** Lois Suarez introduced herself, she is joining the pollinator committee and said she was fascinated by all the details of the impacts of the bag charge law
11. **Next meeting:** set for July 14th at 7pm on Zoom.
12. Dan motioned to adjourn meeting; Steve seconded. Meeting Adjourned.