



Ag Committee Meeting Minutes

September 14th 2023 at 7pm via Zoom

Attendees:

Melissa Maxwell, co-chair, Barretts Mill Farm.
Steve Verrill, Member, Verrill Farm
Dan Schmid, Member, Walden Woods Farm
Joe Rogers, Member, Clerk
Grace Scimone, Member, Scimone Farm
Happy Goethert, Member, Scimone Farm
Mary Hartman, Select Board

Chair of this meeting: Melissa

Review of August minutes: moved to be accepted as written by Dan, seconded by Steve

News of farms and farmers: Very high winds at Barrett's Mill last week reported by Melissa but without major damage. Couldn't believe the high tunnels are still standing. Steve and Dan didn't have any wind, but got the rain. Steve lost pumpkins to wetness, had to find another farm to buy from.

Ag Day Recap: Positive reviews. Good sales for the farmers. The stores on Main Street reported being happy with good sales and no issues. Melissa thought the non-profits did a good and better job of presenting themselves.

Mary reminded us to be careful to be clear about the rules and standards for non profits and political groups who want to use AG day as a forum for their causes. It would be good to get more explicit about what is allowed and what is not in written form, really narrow in on how what they are promoting relates to agriculture. We do have written guidelines but would be good to tighten them even further.

Grace reported it was good for Scimone farm. Plus it didn't rain until it was over. It was really hot, but good crowds. Veggie racers seem like a bigger and bigger attraction every year. They went well. Big thank you to Vanderhoofs for provided ample axles and wheels. Melissa loved the Hutchins tractor blocking the roadway – a clear visual to folks driving by about what was going on. Also folks loved taking photos of it, helped that side of the market.

Praise for Happy for her posters. Praise for Liza and her brother running the veggie racers. Mary was pleased that the day provided a way for the townspeople and select board to interact directly. AG day provided a meeting place for the town, very feel good event.

Ag Committee Logo Revisited: Liza isn't here, so will move to next meeting.

Other business: ConcordCAN coffee about biodiversity coming up, the Ag Committee was invited to – Tuesday Sept 19th. New officers to be discussed and voted on at our next meeting. Dan maybe interested in being a co-chair. Grace is open to idea of being clerk.

Steve suggests that we start planning Spring Forum and coming up with ideas. We will put it on the agenda for next time.

Mary reported that the future cellphone antenna at Tricon church is still hopefully moving forward. Mary reminded us that the Check out bag fee language needs to be finalized and voted on in our October meeting. Liza and Mary will work on a draft.

Public comment: None

Next meeting: set for October 12 at 7PM by zoom

Move to adjourn by Melissa, seconded by Grace.

Meeting adjourned 7:26 PM