

2-21-2017 Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes

Beth Manning

Prudy Wholey

Carolyn Wheeler

Norm Davenport (9 guest)

Ernie Kelley

The minutes of the 11-15-16 meeting were read and accepted.

Carolyn gave a treasurer's report. There are two different accounts, one with \$1167.16, the other \$500. Kim Stevens has submitted a bill to the town for payment for rolls and ice cream from the harvest dinner. So, the total may not reflect that \$50 yet.

We need a new member to take the place of Jay Herron. Jonathan Graves, Norm Davenport, Christopher Totman, and John Payne were suggested. Someone will approach these people and see if any of them is interested. After that, the candidate will be put forward to the select board, and if accepted, sworn in.

Norm Davenport came to the meeting to see if we could get the movie *Forgotten Farms* shown at Memorial Hall. He saw it earlier and thinks it would be a good educational tool, hopefully getting the non-farming public to understand the plight of dairy farming in this town (including all small farming operations). Carolyn will speak to CISA about that. The movie is about 1 ½ hr. long.

The subject of signage for local products was brought up again. There is very little in the stores, except for places like River Valley Market and other cooperatives. Bigger stores don't do much in the way of advertising local products.

Carolyn had a pamphlet from the town of Lincoln which touches on the town's people to support local farms. She feels we could have something similar.

Beth Jetson from Mohawk middle school tried to get a grant for agricultural education programs at the school, but didn't get it. Perhaps we could pay for a bus to transport 7th and 8th graders on a field trip to visit area farms. The school still wants to promote agriculture in their curriculum.

We need to get some photos ready for the town's 250th celebration in 2018. Carolyn and John have some very good photos in a slide show, but there are more we could use to make it better.

The next meeting will be 3-21-17.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence Wholey

