

Woodstock Agricultural Commission

Regular Meeting, Town Hall, 1 pm, Monday, February 21, 2023

Members Present: Emilie Hebert, Jon Hermonot, Rebecca Hyde, Paul Miller, Stewart Morse, Richard Norman, Karen Swanberg

Absent: Linda Auger

Public present: None

1. **Call to order** Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm
2. **Seat alternates** None needed
3. **Review of minutes** January 2023 minutes were approved
4. **Public participation** None
5. **Old business**
 - a. **WOSLAPC report** No report
 - b. **P&Z report** Discussions continue on Air BnB and cannabis regulations
 - c. **Budget** No news
 - d. **Ag. Zoning Ideas/Questions**

Motion made and passed unanimously to send the following to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Zoning Enforcement Officer:

It is the recommendation of the Woodstock Agricultural Commission to the Planning and Zoning Board and the ZEO that, in regards to permitting farm stores, the Planning and Zoning Commission consider adding this definition to the Zoning Regulations, which the Agricultural Commission is in agreement on:

FARM STORE

A permanent structure located on a site that is used by a farm for the sale of raw and/or processed local agricultural products along with promotional items.

e. SAE Opportunities Courtney Cardinal, Program Director of the Killingly Regional Agricultural Education Program, made a presentation to the Woodstock Board of Ed to raise awareness. Stewart is generating a list of SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects) opportunities for Woodstock.

f. Other None

6. New business

a. State of CT Ag Report Ag Day at the Capital will take place March 22nd. Several bills have been proposed, SB 350 to exempt trucks carrying farm-related goods from the mileage tax, Bill 5608 to enable the restoration of farmlands that host solar projects to production agricultural condition, and Bill 6027 to allow CT whole milk in schools.

b. Woodstock land map review Map 5126. 119 parcels, 900 acres. Parts of Bradford Corner Rd, Brickyard Rd, Center Rd, LaChapelle Rd, Child Rd, Rt 197, Marcy Rd, Cedar

Swamp, Bungee Brook and Chamberlain Lake. 1 cemetery (23/09). About 75 acres were considered tillable farmland under old open space classifications. No protected open space.

c. Other Maura Robie from the Eastern CT Conservation District requested the Woodstock Ag Commission add their name to a postcard being sent to certain farmers, offering advice on manure management. **All in favor.**

7. Announcements. Karen Swanberg has been appointed to the Ag Comm 2/2/23 to 12/31/25. Jack Williamson and his wife, Jean Williamson, passed away Feb 9th.

8. Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 2:27

Rebecca Hyde, Secretary

(These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting of the full Commission.)