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**ENFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
TUESDAY, March 12, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Agricultural Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante in the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday March 12, 2019 @ 7:06 PM

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present - Chair LaPlante, Commissioner McGuire, Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall (7:15) and Commissioner Wyzga.

Also present: Karen Timpone – Recording secretary

Absent – Commissioner Cote, Commissioner Kneiss and Commissioner Doyle.

**Public Participation** – Lynn Sacerdote who attended the farm summit on Saturday was invited by Chair LaPlante to the sit in on the meeting this evening.

Approval of Minutes - A motion to accept minutes of January 8, 2019 was made by Commissioner Dynia and seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussion – 5/0/0

**Multi Town Summit** – Chair LaPlante discussed the multi town farm summit that took place on Saturday March 9, 2019 (snow date from March 2, 2019) The towns that helped plan it were East Windsor, Enfield and Somers. There were 50 attendees and 20 to 25 presenters and exhibitors. The attendees were from 17 towns in Connecticut and one town in Massachusetts. The farthest person came from Sandy Hook (Newtown.) He is a sheep farmer. Other attendees were from Enfield, East Windsor, Suffield, Stafford, Somers, West Suffield, Manchester, Windham, Windsor Locks, South Windsor, Willington, Stafford Springs, Ashford, Putnam, East Hartford, Broad Brook, Vernon and Feeding Hills, MA. Turn out was good. Most people were from Enfield (9) and East Windsor (6). Commissioner McGuire stated that most of the presentations were well attended. Beekeeping had the most attendees with 17 and Hydroponics had 15, Soil had 11 and Social Media had 11. How to establish CSA had approximately 9, State Grants had 11. All the comment cards were positive. For the future planning possibly get more Agricultural Commissions (Suffield, Ellington, South Windsor, etc.) involved. Commissioner McGuire stated that with different regulations going into effect each year different information/presentations could be provided each year. Commissioner McGuire would like to put growers and buyers together, farm to table, farm to school, farm to grocer, etc. The EAC decided that March is a good time to hold the Farm Summit.

Commissioner Vose asked about solar farms going back into farmland. She was asking about the Enfield Solar farm in particular. Is it in the contract to go back into farmland when the life of the solar farm is done? They only last about 20 - 25 years.

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked if the Summit is something that the EAC will do again and can it be done without the assistance of Chris Casey Concepts. Commissioner McGuire said it is a lot to do and he would not be able to do it alone.

Chair LaPlante read the comment cards. A lot of comments stated they would have liked more time for presenters. They were 40 minutes, so possibly change them next time. Possibly doing 45 minute sessions and have 15 minutes in-between and for any overage or questions.

They EAC will talk about doing it yearly. It was decided though that hosting it at Asnuntuck worked out well and they would like to hold it again at that location. The IT person (student) that Asnuntuck provided was excellent.

### **Unfinished Business -**

**Farms and Farmland Preservation** – No update.

### **Correspondence / All Commissioners & Staff –**

Chair LaPlante got an E-mail from Laurie Whitten regarding Sustainable Connecticut Program – Voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut Municipalities. There is a whole spreadsheet of action plans. She will talk about this more in the ECC meeting.

Next Meeting Date – Tuesday April 9, 2019

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wyzga seconded by Commissioner Vose – No discussion - Passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:55 PM