

Columbia Conservation and Agriculture Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Present: Christopher Tolsdorf, Paul Ramsey, Walt Tabor, Christopher McGrath, Tom McGrath, Ann Dunnack, Margaret Verizzi, Jim Corso, and Nancy Tabor

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Chairman Ann Dunnack welcomed the new members: Chris McGrath, Tom McGrath, Chris Tolsdorf, and Walt Tabor.

Audience: Nothing not on the agenda

1. Old Business:

1.1 Town Agricultural Grant

Jim Corso composed an outline of parameters for the grant, which was discussed at length. Margaret produced a copy of a Block Grant offered by the State of CT. Chris Tolsdorf volunteered to use the Block Grant as a template to write up a draft for the Town Grant. When he has completed this task, the Commission will take it to the Town Administrator for further development, and then to the Board of Selectmen.

1.2 Mono Pond Invasive Aquatic Plants

Paul Ramsey reported on the bids by two Massachusetts companies to control the invasive aquatic plants in Mono Pond. He also gave the history of the agreement between the Town of Columbia and DEEP to manage Mono Pond.

CCAC will sponsor a workshop on both aquatic and terrestrial invasive plants on May 15, 2014 at 7:00PM in the Senior Center. Paul volunteered to write this up for the Crossroads.

Jim Corso will offer a Poultry Clinic on May 17, 1-3 PM in Yeomans Hall. Jim volunteered to write this up for the Crossroads.

1.3 Ann reminded everyone of the Szegda Farm Heritage Trails Day on June 7, 2014, 11AM to 2 PM.

2.0 New Business

2.1 Russ Haddad, a Columbia Resident and Professional Photographer, has agreed to do a photo project on Columbia's Agriculture. This may be ready to display at SFHTday. It will be a great medium to promote agriculture in Columbia.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Dunnack