



Bozrah Agriculture Commission

Monthly Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Present: Sarah Brush, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Cheryl Carberry, Molly Lathrop, Abi Christina, Joe Christina **Public Guests:** Glenn Pianka, Michel Leask (Zoom coordinator)

Absent: Stephanie Fear

1. Attendance/ Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Sarah Brush. The meeting was held virtually.

2. Public Input: none

3. Review of Minutes: Amanda moved to accept the minutes of the November 16, 2021 meeting. Abi seconded the motion; The commission agreed that “Buffet” should more accurately be called “Local Food Potluck.” There is also an edit for “Amanda will look into a costume form the Department of Agriculture”; this should be under the Memorial Parade discussion and not the Farmer’s Market event. Cheryl will make the corrections. The motion was passed with the two edits that were discussed.

4. Old Business:

- **2022 BAC Sponsorships-** Glenn provided the commission members with the policy that was adopted by the town regarding awards and scholarships. Town funds cannot be used to fund our BAC scholarships. We need to raise these funds. Michel shared her experience with this policy. Molly moved to continue to support the student scholarships with this year’s amount to be decided. Cheryl seconded the motion. Molly reported that there are two eligible freshmen and no eligible seniors at Lyman Memorial High School this year for our awards. The commission members were in full agreement about the importance of supporting youth in their agricultural pursuits. Discussion continued about feeling confident that we can raise money to continue the scholarships. The motion was passed unanimously.
- **Fiberfest -** Joe spoke with Linda, the owner of Six Paca Farm and received permission for Fiberfest to be held at the mill or farm location. A tentative date of October 22, 2022 has been set. The location options were discussed. Abi will provide Glenn with more information so he can explore attaining insurance from the town for Fiberfest. Food options were discussed. Amanda will reach out to potential vendors. Further planning will occur at our next meeting.
- **Tractor Night at Farmer’s Market –** Sarah reported that this event will be on Friday, July 15, 2022. Amanda will publicize this event. Volunteers will be needed to solicit scholarship donations and bring the BAC display to the market. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

- **Ag in the Classroom** – This activity is planned to be held this summer; Molly & Cheryl will plan and participate.
- **Memorial Day** - Molly is securing a tractor and hay wagon; Glenn stated the parade will be held on Saturday, May 28th at 10:00 am and the parade planning meetings will start in February; Amanda reached out to the Department of Agriculture about a cow costume but they have discontinued this.
- **Bozrah Commissions Appreciation Local Food Potluck** – Molly volunteered to be the head organizer; Cheryl offered to help; We will hold this in August 2022; Molly will reach out to the Maple Park Commission members for a date; Hoping for a Saturday 5-7pm; planning will continue at future meetings.
- **Riverwalk Improvement Plan** – Commission members shared the vision for this with Glenn who was very supportive of the idea. He requested that careful attention be paid to protecting the white oak tree that is in Carl Zorn’s memory. Approval for pursuing the improvement plan is needed from the Board of Selectmen.

5. New Business:

- Glenn provided the BAC members with an update on the current Open Space Plan for Bozrah. There are several parcels of land that the town is interesting in protecting on South Road, Bozrah Street and along the cemetery walkway. Funding is “in the works.” The Avalonia Land Conservancy is interested in helping manage the properties. Glenn would like the BAC to be involved and thinks the Riverwalk Improvement Plan fits well with the town’s plan.
- Cheryl volunteered to convert the paper and pen scholarship application to a more modern, digital format. Ideas were discussed. Cheryl will create a Google Doc for applicants.

6. Other Business:

- Molly proposed wearing shirts with the BAC logo at BAC functions. She can create these. Interested members should bring the shirt they want a logo on to next meeting for Molly.

7. Future Agendas: The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 22, 2022. The agenda will reflect the minutes of this meeting. BYOS! (bring your own shirt)

8. Announcements/Reminders: Amanda announced that there are 2022 transition grants available for farmers. Visit <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/ADaRC/Publications/2022-Farm-Transition-Grant> for more information. A virtual workshop is being held in February to support this.

9. Public Input: None

10. Adjourn: Abi moved to adjourn the meeting; Joe seconded the motion; the motion was passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Carberry

BAC Secretary