

Nelson Agricultural Commission

Minutes of Meeting April 1, 2015

Olivia Rodham Memorial Library - Nelson

Members Present: *Barbara Fraser, Val Van Meier, John Bunce, and Jacqueline Roland*

1. Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. Minutes of 3/4/2015 meeting accepted as read.
3. Commission members reviewed term expirations. Jacqueline Roland and Barbara Fraser's terms expired in March, 2015. They both decided to renew their terms, and Jacqueline agreed to submit that information to the town offices.
4. The Commission discussed expanding the Ag Com's membership. According to NH RSA 673:4-b, agricultural commissions can have up to seven regular members and 5 alternates. Currently, the Ag Com has four regular members and three alternates. Members agreed to contact residents who are involved in agriculture and might be interested in serving on the Ag Com. They will report back at the next meeting.
5. The Commission unanimously elected Val Van Meier as chair.
6. After reviewing the priority list that the Commission developed last fall, members discussed their next projects. Many of the action items on the priority list have already been addressed by the Commission. For example:
 - An Ag Com mailing list has been established.
 - The Ag Com web page on the library maintained town website has been updated.
 - The Commission is currently working on updating the Nelson producer's directory.
 - The Commission is exploring options for an Ag Com lecture series.

Commission members reviewed the remaining priority issues, including supporting/encouraging animal husbandry and developing their farm/greenhouse tour efforts. They discussed the possibility of hosting a farm tour to showcase animal husbandry in Nelson. The Commission decided to review new ideas and create action steps for their remaining priorities during their May meeting.

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Submitted Jacqueline Roland, secretary.