

## **Nelson Agricultural Commission**

Minutes of Meeting June 3, 2015

Olivia Rodham Memorial Library - Nelson

Members Present: *Val Van Meier, John Bunce, Judi Lang, Jacqueline Roland, Barbara Voymas, and David Voymas*

Guests: *Pat Rich*

1. Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. Minutes of 5/6/2015 meeting accepted as read.
3. The Commission accepted Barbara Fraser's request to resign.
4. Members reviewed the progress that they made on their to-do list since their May meeting. Judi reported that she finished her efforts to contact people for the Ag Com email list. Jacqueline sent updated membership information to the town offices. Val reviewed the Ag Com's financial status; the Commission currently has \$500 in its trust fund and \$300 in its operating budget.
5. Jacqueline shared with the Commission some information that she'd found about Walpole's Hooper Scholarship Program, which funds agriculture related educational opportunities for youth and young adults. Members discussed the feasibility of having a similar program in Nelson. Val agreed to research Ag Com rules relative to fundraising.
6. Members discussed their plans for communication through the Ag Com email list. Jacqueline agreed to send out an email update about David Voymas's upcoming presentation on sustainability.
7. Commission members reviewed new ideas for potential Ag Com lecture series speakers. Judi volunteered to contact the Cooperative Extension about a speaker on backyard chickens.
8. The Commission discussed the Nelson School's strawberry beds. John Bunce agreed to contact the school to see if the Commission could help weed and mulch the strawberry beds.
9. After reviewing their plans for a Fall Farm Tour, Commission members decided to continue their efforts to contact farms that could be featured on the tour.
10. Members discussed the Commission's membership. Pat Rich informed the Commission that she'd like to serve as an alternate member of the Ag Com. Barbara Voymas agreed to serve as a regular member instead of an alternate. Jacqueline agreed to send the updated term information to the town offices.

11. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Submitted by Jacqueline Roland, secretary.

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