

Agricultural Commission Report

In 2013, we pursued several activities to increase awareness of local agriculture and to stress the value of locally grown food.

We worked on two collaborative projects with other town organizations. The first was with the Elementary School, to help them develop their plans for their new strawberry beds. Members of the Commission met twice with Sheila Vara, Principal; school parents constructed the beds, and the strawberry plants were donated by a member of the Agricultural Commission. Students should be looking forward to a delicious treat around the end of the school year!

The second project was with the Missions Committee of the Nelson Church, to re-activate the weekly Farm Table across the street from the Village Green. Church members and Agricultural Commission members took turns setting up the table; several Nelson gardeners donated produce; and monetary donations were gratefully received by the Missions Committee.

Commission members reviewed several movies of Agricultural interest, created a short list of favorites, and selected "Food, Inc." to be our first of many presentations to the community. As of this writing, the movie is scheduled to be shown in January.

We are currently planning a local Greenhouse Tour for April, and we are researching a seed-saver exchange as a possible annual event.

This year the Commission welcomed new members Val Van Meier and John Bunce.