

Agricultural Commission, Nelson, NH
Meeting minutes November 1, 2017
Olivia Rodham Memorial Library Basement

Members present: Val Van Meier, Mare Anne Jarvela, Barbara Voymas

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05PM.
2. The Colonial Garden – Since there has not yet been a killing frost, it was decided to delay putting the garden to bed for the winter. We have a bale of hay for mulch and it is likely that it will need to be done before the next meeting so the group will have to communicate and choose a time later this month.
3. 2018 Lecture series – the results of the questionnaires have been tabulated with the most interest in “the real dirt on soil”. A very tentative schedule was discussed and contacts will be made based on it with adjustments and details expected to be worked out at the next meeting
 - January - “The Mighty Oak” presentation by Beth Draper – harvesting and preparing acorns.
 - February – pruning and grafting apple trees or pruning brambles/berries. Possible speakers – Ted Lenk, Owen Iselin, or someone from NH Extension.
 - March – Mayfair Farm – getting started in an agricultural enterprise in this area from the start to expansion – Barbara to contact.
 - April – cheesemaking at home and for the market – Val to contact Susan O’Dwyer of Harrisville
 - May – a two part workshop was discussed that would cover the real dirt on soil with a break for light snacks, followed by on no till farming. There may be someone in Walpole who would be able to be the speaker for the second half of the workshop.
4. Next year's budget request will be \$300. As it was last year.
5. Cathy Provoda, an artist and illustrator from Peterborough has agreed to work with us on some artwork for the banner.
6. There was discussion of subscribing to Acres, USA magazine. Articles could be read and reviewed on our website by commission members. The magazine would be available at the library.
7. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07PM.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Voymas, acting secretary.