

Nelson Agricultural Commission Minutes, Sept. 4, 2019  
Olivia Rodham Library

Members present: Val Van Meier, Sam Romano, Mare-Anne Jarvela

Guest: Rachel Patterson

Meeting called to order 7:05 pm

1. Action items: John spoke to Steve Robarge and he is all set to speak about Silviculture in January. Mare-Anne contacted Robin Sweetser to see if she would be interested in talking about grafting vegetables at a future Saturday lecture session. Robin declined. We will try to find someone else to cover this topic. Pat will contact Nye Hill again about a beer gardening lecture.
2. Old Home Day (August 17): Our booth with the bee hive and the pollinator seed display drew people in. Lots of folks stopped by to find the queen bee and asked questions. Next year we will have goats (Rachel will bring) and maybe include some other animals.
3. Colonial Garden. We will collect seeds from the plants in early October, before the critters get them. Next spring we do not need manure from John. The soil is well fertilized. We have enough brochures for now. No need to reprint.
4. Farmer's Market: We have about 10 vendors (including 3 Nelson School students). Val will meet with the Linda's Closet organizer 9/19 to figure out the details about setting up and sharing the space. Val will ask Kim Rich to put up the Farmer's Market signs a week prior to 9/21. Friday, 9/20, we will mark off the booth spaces in front of the school and put up cones on the road for vendor parking.
5. 2020 Lecture Series:
  - Silviculture – Steve Robarge – January
  - High tunnel season extension – Kathleen Vetter – February ?
  - Hydroponics – Jason Burg – March
  - Vermiculture – Val - ?
  - Growing a beer garden – Nye Hill- ?
  - Grafting plants/propagation- ? - ?

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Minutes submitted by Mare-Anne Jarvela