

Minutes of the Whately Ag Commission meeting 2/15/22

Meeting opened at 7:10 with John Devine, Margaret Christie, Bill O' Bear, Jim Golonka and Doug Coldwell present.

The Committee thanked John for many years of service as secretary and acknowledged Doug would be stepping into that roll. Margaret agreed to be the meeting "host". The idea of adding new members was discussed. Margaret noted that membership is currently capped at 7. Doug agreed to contact Tim Nourse and Dave Chamutka to see if they want to continue on as members as they have not participated regularly in some time.

The committee discussed the proposed Marijuana cultivation site at Long Plain Farm on Christian Lane and had no objection to the plan. We acknowledged that the site is narrow and residential but that their proposal addressed odor remediation and that it would be a seasonal production facility without lighting. Doug Agreed to forward our endorsement to the Judy Markland.

Margaret reports that the Ashman APR is in a holding pattern for now and that there were no new applicants.

Margaret reported the town intends to hold two public education sessions on the new floodplain bylaws the town needs to adopt in order for residents to qualify for flood insurance. Members were forwarded the presentation to review and the committee agreed to help spread the word about the educational sessions.

John acknowledged the passing of Jim Pasciesnik and expressed hope that the farmland would stay in production. Margaret mentioned she was aware of estate planning resources available to assist farms.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 and we agreed to meet again on Tuesday March 15th at 6 pm.

Doug Coldwell
Secretary, Whately Ag Comm.