

Lee Agricultural Commission Minutes

September 27, 2022

Present: Erick Sawtelle, Dwight Barney, Dave Miner, Chuck Cox, Donna-Lee Wood, Ken Brisson, Laura Gund

Minutes: Minutes were read and Ken moved to accept the minutes as read. Passed.

Lee Fair: The barbecue brought in \$4605 and so far, expenses have been \$1452.34. There will be further expenses. The Fair Committee spent \$13,200 (\$9000 for fireworks). Recreation Committee donated \$3500 towards the fireworks and this commission will give \$1000 towards the fireworks, using \$500 from the Farmers Market fund and \$500 from the Commission money. *Ken made a motion to spend this amount of money towards the fireworks, motion seconded and passed.* Dwight suggested a donation to the Grange, but this has not been decided.

At the fair supper, we ran out of chicken, mac and cheese (a new item on the menu), beans, apples and onions. It was a success! At the Farm Games, Chuck had help from Alex Chase who was a big help. Instead of one event at a time, they did a few at once and that moved things along. There were 30 participants. The round bales were a great hit! Regarding the games, Chuck wonders about parents signing a release? "Play at your own risk." The Best of Harvest was another success.

Backyard Farming: The Committee has had a couple of meetings. The programs will be held in January, February, March, April and May. January 25th will be "Harvest and How To Use It"; February, "Fresh v. Aging"; March, "Alive and Dead"; April, "Herbs and Spices." They have to look into space requirements and wondered whether the Safety Complex was a possible site.

Farmers Market: We discussed the possibility of having a Farmers Market at Little River Park. Ken is looking for possible participants.

Budget Request: Ken moved that we would not request any funds for 2023-2024. Passed.

Ag. Commission file drawer: Laura has checked out the files which include old and current minutes, newspaper articles, copies of brochures. The cabinets are being moved to the Assessor's Room in the Town Office Bldg. There are 45 unfolded copies of the last brochures in the file. Laura will bring them to the next meeting to be folded.

Lee Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is next week. Unfortunately, the same night as the Strafford County Farm Bureau annual meeting which some members of this Commission will be attending.

Next meeting will be October 25th.

Minutes submitted by Laura Gund