

ASHFORD AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 16, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Town Hall Room 112

Minutes

1. **Call to Order**
 - a. **7:35**
2. **Seating of Alternates**
 - a. **Seat N. Weinstock for P. Varga**
 - b. **Seat M. Brauch for Vacancy**
 - c. **J. Murphy Joined at 7:38**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. January 19, 2022
 - i. Amend to reflect Adjournment at 9:12
 - ii. Amend to add Meeting Date as follows:
 1. January 19, 2023; February 16, 2023; March 16, 2023; April 20, 2023; May 18, 2023; June 15, 2023; July 20, 2023; August 17, 2023; September 21, 2023; October 19, 2023; November 16, 2023; December 21, 2023
 - b. M. Brauch Motions to approve minutes with addition of dates and adjournment time, J. Murphy seconds, Unanimous with J. Murphy abstaining
4. **Hear from Public**
 - a. **None**
5. **Communications**
 - a. **None**
6. **Chairman's briefing**
 - a. Welcome new member
 - b. Resignation of M. Sibega. Need to have a letter sent to the BOS.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Membership
 - b. Tax abatements as submitted to BOS
 - i. Discussion regarding approach. Further action to be taken at March meeting.
8. **New Business:**
 - a. Member initiatives
 - i. N. Weinstock Right to farm ordinance – been doing research and will have more to share in March.

- ii. J. Murphy is going to draft rules for a FB page to promote farm products specific to Ashford
- iii. Calendar for articles:
 - 1. March -All about chickens - Jenne
 - 2. April – Grown Connected Feature – N. Weinstock
 - 3. May – Fireworks -
 - 4. June – Something horse related
 - 5. July - The life of a non-farming spouse
 - 6. August – Food labels
 - 7. September – Focus on Regenerative
 - 8. October – Changing face of Agriculture – Farm bureau
 - 9. November – How to be a good farm neighbor
 - 10. December – How to support my local farm through winter
 - 11. Build your own chicken tractor

9. Round table discussion

- a. Distribution list
- b. Email address
- c. Ask town clerk about shared documents
- d. EDC offers money
- e.

10. Action item assignments

11. Adjourn

- a. M. Brauch moves to adjourn, N. Weinstock second, 9:12 Unanimous

Luther Brauch

Chairman

Ashford Agriculture Commission