

## Durham Agricultural Commission

11 July 2022

7:00pm, Durham Police Station

### Meeting Minutes - Draft

Members present Theresa Walker (Chair) and Ray LaRoche (Vice Chair),  
Lee Alexander, Anton Bekkerman, Bryan Cassidy, Ellen Karelitz, Alberto Manalo,  
and Dan Winans

Members absent: Ellie Lonske (Town Council Rep) and Paul Rasmussen (Planning Board Rep)  
John Carroll, Dave Langley, and Holly Philbrick

Visitors: none

### 1. New Business

A. Minutes from the June Meeting – approved with no revisions

B. Correspondence  
- none

C. Planning for “Farm Day” (20 August 2022)

- Poster/Flyer/Placemats all look quite good. Will add two small beehives next to the Red Barn.

Anton Bekkerman provided some minor edits.

- Plan again to serve steamed sweet corn from both Tecce and Emery Farm.

- Ellen will contact Ciao, Clark’s American Bistro, and Big Bean about using placemats.

- Ray LaRoche will make arrangements for a new banner saying “Durham – Lee – Madbury Farm Day”.

- Anton will place some flyers in the UNH MUB.

- Final planning/coordination can be done at the August AgComm meeting (8 August)

D. [Oyster River] Foodshed update

- Next planning meeting will be on 20 June 2022 at Emery Farm.

- Lee Alexander suggested that an announcement on this initiative be made in the *Friday Update*.

Also, he suggested that a printed flyer be made up in time for Farm Day.

### 2. Old Business

A. AgComm Initiatives

1. Bee Friendly Program – Lee Alexander mentioned that the Xerces Society appears to have an increased focus on reducing the use of pesticides.

2. Food Friendly Yard – Ellen Karelitz will host a tour at Whale Rock Farm.

3. Garden and Farm Mentors – Brian Cassidy reported that garlic beds were pulled this past weekend.

4. Durham Farm Day (20 August 2022) – [was discussed in Agenda Item 1C.]

B. Farmers’ Markets – Chair reported there are relatively few vegetables, but a variety of other agricultural products and prepared foods. There are plans to install “sandwich signs” that can be viewed from Main Street.

D. Land Stewardship Subcommittee – No report. John Carroll was absent.

- E. Community Gardens – Ellen Karelitz reported the Wagon Hill gardens are doing quite well, but there is limited activity at the “Meadow’s Community Garden.” Water and parking are limiting factors.

### **3. Other Business**

- A. The AgComm website needs to be updated/refreshed with more current information.

Next AgComm meeting: 8 August 2022

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:35pm

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Recorded by Lee Alexander