

**RICHMOND AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**  
**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014**

***Attending:*** Theresa Majoy, Wes Vaughan, Sandy Holbrook, Heather Canfield  
***Rosti Eismont***

***Call to order:*** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Theresa.

***Minutes of last meeting:*** The minutes of the March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting were read. A motion to accept was made by Wes.  
Motion passed unanimously.

***Old Business***

1. ***Garden tour:*** The date of the garden tour will be June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It will run from 10 AM to 2 pm. Theresa said that the selectboard had the following suggestions:

Sell sandwiches and/or other foods during the tour.

Charge non-residents for tour

Contact the woman who does the children's activities at the Veterans' Hall and ask her if she is willing to do the same for us during the "Family Farm Day" and other of our events.

After some discussion, we decided against the food concession and charging for the tour. We felt that selling food was risky, as we have no idea about attendance, and this increases the risk of running short or overpurchasing (not to mention the time spent preparing the foods). We will handle refreshments by requesting that the gardeners provide something to drink and a small food item, as they have done in the past.

Participating gardeners this year are the same as last, so far. They are:

Carol Jamieson

Sandy Holbrook

Rosti Eismont

Jan Weekes

Jean Tandy (Rosti is trying to contact her for confirmation.)

Theresa will contact Gail Hagstrom and Leandra \_\_\_\_\_, chairpersons of the Fitzwilliam and Peterborough garden clubs. She hopes that their gardeners would like to be included in our tour.

We felt that our fledgeling tour was not developed enough to charge admission; however, we may wish to charge in future.

We felt that having more formal activities for children is a good idea, and we will follow up on this suggestion.

The parks and recreation folks would like to have some planting done in an area that they have recently 'dug up' – We decided that we had enough on our collective plate, and so we cannot assist them in this.

2. **Map and Signage:** Copies of last year's fliers (with appropriate changes) will be sent to Rosti – he has again volunteered to print up the maps, fliers, and road signage. Sandy will make the revisions to last year's fliers. Rosti will be reimbursed for material expenses by the R. A. C. Sandy will send the fliers and other info to John Boccalini at the Rooster for inclusion in their next issue. John has agreed to print the tour maps and garden listing/descriptions again this year...our thanks to John! Theresa will send copies of these materials to the presidents of the Fitzwilliam and Peterborough garden clubs.
3. **Garden tours for the Hosts** Carol Jamieson has graciously invited all hosts of the tour to attend a barbecue at her house after the tour has ended. Theresa suggested that everyone attending bring a dish to contribute.
4. **Letters to Hosts:** Heather will send letters to the hosts with suggestions for this year's tour. She will use the same format as last year (developed by Theresa, Susan Marsden, Sandy, and Heather) and will send them out by 4/16.
5. **Joint projects with other Town boards:** Sandy informed us that the Historical Society was unable to obtain a speaker for their potluck (this due to budget cut at the state level). Sandy asked for suggestions re: alternatives. A showcase of local talent was suggested. We would like to continue our involvement with the Historical Society and other town boards. There is no set date for this event. There was some discussion re: the "Family Farm Day" that we worked on with the Conservation Commission. Again, we do not have a date for this, but we wish to remain involved. The Selectboard's suggestion re: booking the person who does the children's activities at the Vet's Hall is helpful – our children's activities were limited last year.

## 6. *New business*

Theresa brought a group of informational brochures that we may want to have available for public use. They are as follows:

Monadnock Guide to Local Farms: This is a publication of the Cheshire County Conservation District. We will contact them to obtain some copies for us.

Informational brochure about genetically modified organisms (GMOs)

Brochure on invasive species: This is put out by the Cooperative Extension Service – Phone # is 352-4550. Rosti will contact them to obtain more copies.

Community Garden: The Selectboard suggested that we look into establishing a garden for townspeople. After discussion, we decided that appropriate locations were scarce, most folks have enough land for their own gardens, and charging folks for each plot would further reduce demand; therefore, we would not pursue this suggestion at this time.

**Adjournment:** There being no more business, Theresa moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Motion seconded by Heather. Passed unanimously. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the Veterans' Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Canfield  
Acting Secretary  
Richmond Agricultural Commission