

Oxford Agricultural Committee Minutes
February 10, 2020

Call to order: 7:15pm

Roll Call: Bob Owsiany, Ed Belinsky, Lexi Gazy, Ed Rolland

Guests: None

Old Business: None

Farmers Market: The starting date of the market was set last month at June 20th. August 15th is the Sunflower Show-Down; Ask a Master Gardener and the Chili Cook off are still to be set.

Bob received an email that he will forward to Lexi regarding a non-profit organization looking for vegetable donations for a food preparation program. Lexi will respond.

Children's Garden: Bob offered to accompany the First Selectman when he meets with the new superintendent of schools in Oxford for a discussion about the children's garden. The selectman's assistant is coordinating a meeting date and will advise when/where the meeting will take place.

Leo mentioned again that fertilizer and irrigation is the top priority for the garden leading up into the next season. Since the raised beds are on a solid surface (tennis courts), sufficient watering is critical during the summer to prevent the soil from overheating and killing the crops. The Nonnewaug interns spent most of their time last summer just trying to provide enough water to prevent the crops from drying up. Bob is looking to options for the irrigation system and has decided on running PEX tubing with valving to control the water flow to the raised beds. Pex would be a much longer lasting system than the foam tubing system that only existed for less than one season. Estimates are around \$500 dollars and he will look into pricing before next meeting. Bob spoke with Mrs. O'Neil regarding available funds for the watering project and she will review and advise.

A meeting was set on February 22nd to continue working on the greenhouse/outdoor classroom and other activities as volunteers are available to support. An email has been sent out advising Mr. Hibbert, Mrs. McGinnis and others of the February 22 gathering at the garden beginning around 10 a.m.

Lexi reported that the Children's garden banner is completed and should be delivered in the next week. The two foot by six foot banner was originally priced at \$83 dollars but may cost less when received.

New Business: None

Comments from the Floor:

None

Adjourned: 8:35pm

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TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
Cynthia A. West
TOWN CLERK