

Oxford Agricultural Committee

May 8, 2023, 7pm

Special Meeting

Meeting called to order 7:02 pm

In attendance: Alicia Belinsky, Chairwoman

Debbie Alterio, Secretary

Corky Burke, Board Member, GOES Garden Liaison

Tyler Grailich, Treasurer...(remote attendance)

Tony Pereira, Vice Chairman

Abigail Risi, FFA Liaison

Bob Owsiany, Advisor

Pledge

Motion to accept the April Minutes with the correction of Tony Pereira's name spelling. All in favor 5-0 apposed, motion carries to approve April Minutes.

Secretary's Report: Clean Up Day for GOES Garden was done on April 22,2023

In attendance were board members Alicia Belinsky, Tony Pereira and his loader for grounds clean up preparing ground for the greenhouse. Debbie Alterio, Bob Owsiany did the Grape Vines and put them back in position and Corky Burke.

We set a date of May 20, 2023, Saturday to fix the growing beds. Corky Burke informed us the key has been removed and we do not have access to get into the garden. "They took it away for Protocol and Security reasons" Chairwoman Alicia Belinsky asked Mrs. Burke who is "they" Mrs. Burke said Mr. Hendershot. Chairwoman Alicia Belinsky said she will call him first thing in the morning because we have the boxes and greenhouse to complete.

Motion to accept minutes of secretary report as written.

Reports: FFA None, Farmers Market None, Community Garden Report

Community Gardens Sub Committee submitted by Nancy Prior, read into record by Deborah Alterio

Sub Committee for Community Gardens met on April 25,2023 at Starbucks (Market 32) 7pm

Present: Debbie Alterio, Alicia Belinsky, Alexis Gazy, Joy Peppe, Nancy Prior, Richard Wilber

Topics of Discussed:

Select a chairperson

Overall vision for the garden

## Potential Sites

## Grant possibilities

We reviewed Mr. Temple's list of ideas for the garden and discussed some of our own. Some suggestions were to incorporate a percentage of the plots for youth and people with lower income.

We will explore the suitability of the site at "Property 28" off Christian Street, but we will also keep looking into other sites on other town property or possibly on privately owned land.

We will meet with the town grant writer and also explore agricultural grants.

Nancy Prior was selected to be temporary chairperson.

Our next subcommittee meeting will be on May 24, 2023 at 7pm at the Starbuck's section in Market 32.

## Tasks:

- Alicia will look into the soil type at Property 28
- Debbie will get a list of farms in town and find out about the "Twin Brooks" property off of Rt 67.
- Rich will check on the property behind the town hall to see if that's a possibility.
- Nancy will explore other community gardens in CT and find out about their organizational structures.
- Joy will contact the town grant writer.

## GOES Garden Report

Corky Burke report that they would like to have the boxes repairs done by the end of May when the children are set to do their plantings. Student Council will be doing weeding.

Vote to accept GOES report on garden 5-0. Motion carries

New Business: Change to Calendar

Old Business: None

## Public Comment:

Bob Owsainy, made a suggestion that when it comes to the community garden, we get more input from Mr. Temple.

Tony Pereira, asked if we had media coverage on Facebook and do more advertising.

Alicia Belinsky requested Debbie Alterio submit to Town Clerk pictures of Clean Up Day at GOES Garden.

Motion was made by Tony on changing our meeting calendar, Corky Second all in favor 5-0 changes as follows:

July 3, 2023, Monday MEETING CANCELLED

July 10, 2023, Monday SPECIAL MEETING, 7PM Town Hall

September 4, 2023 Labor Day, NO MEETING

September 11, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING, 7pm Town Hall

Motion to Adjourn all in favor 5-0 apposed

Meeting Adjourned: 7:34pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Alterio, Secretary

Oxford Agricultural Committee

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TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
*Deborah Alterio*  
TOWN CLERK