

**Town of Lincoln**  
**Minutes of the Agriculture Commission Meeting**  
**Held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 via Zoom teleconference**

**Members Present:**

Voting: Louise Bergeron (co-chair), Ari Kurtz (co-chair), Nancy Bergen, Lynne Bower (called in to provide input to part of meeting on a Lincoln Ag Comm logo)

Alternate Voting: Sherry Haydock, Corey Nimmer, Karen Seo

**Members Absent:**

Voting: Ellen Raja, Lynne Bower

Alternate Voting: Linda Emanuel

**7:35pm – Meeting commenced**

**Minutes**

May 2022 minutes -- approved (unanimously)

**Membership**

The Selectmen have voted to approve Linda Emanuel as a member of the Ag Comm.

**Budget**

The remaining unallocated funds of the 2021-2022 budget (\$5743). need to be allocated by June 30, 2022. The budget subcommittee reviewed options (see minutes of April meeting), agreed there isn't time to set up a grant program and therefore recommended that the Ag Comm focus use of the funds on purchasing food from Lincoln Farms for the Lincoln/Weston Food Pantry.

Ari spoke with Karen Boyce who said that the Drumlin's produce and Kanner's apples were great. The clients also liked the corn from Nancy Bergen (not funded by Ag Comm). She expressed interest in establishing a relationship with Drumlin Farm, Kanner Orchards, Lindentree Farm, and Matlock Farm because of the high quality of their produce and high reliability.

She provided the Lincoln Pantry's calendar (when they're open for their client families – see Appendix A) and a wish list of produce:

- green beans
- zucchini squash
- summer squash
- radishes
- tomatoes (high priority)
- cucumbers
- peppers
- kale
- lettuce

- corn on the cob
- carrots
- butternut squash
- potatoes
- sweet potatoes
- melons
- strawberries
- apples
- peaches
- raspberries
- blueberries

Re: quantities, she said 2-3 bushels would be a good start. She hopes they can take a look at the first delivery and adjust future delivery quantities as needed.

Ari also spoke with Alex Pogany (The Food Project's Lincoln farm manager) about the Food Project's food delivery last year. There was less food than expected. Apparently, the harvest was shared with other charities reducing the amount given to the Food Pantry. Alex asked that the Food Project not be included in the Ag Comm's Farm to Food program this year.

Drumlin Farm confirmed that the funds the Ag Comm provided went into the pool used to support Drumlin Farm, not into general Audubon funds.

The Ag Comm will open the Farm to Food Pantry program to any farmer/grower/gardener in Lincoln.

**Decision:** We will use remaining unallocated 2021/2022 funds for the Farm to Food program. (Unanimously).

Because there is little time left, an announcement of the Farm to Food program will be sent right away. All interested parties will be asked to contact the Ag Comm (Ari Kurtz) to obtain the application form, etc. To enable us to assess the applicants we will need to ask applicants to provide information on their experience, \$ requested, how the money will be used, what produce and how much will be grown, when it will be delivered, pest/weed control process used, etc. The budget sub-committee (Ari Kurtz, Lynne Bower, Karen Seo), none of whom will apply for funding, will select the awardees. The announcement will include background information about the Food Pantry.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Ari to write announcement of the Farm to Food Pantry program. Louise to handle posting the announcement on the Ag Comm web page, town hall bulletin board, the Squirrel, and Lincoln Talk. Sherry to see if it can be posted to the Codman Farm community.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Karen to draft an application form for the Farm to Food Pantry program as quickly as possible. She will use Microsoft Word and/or .pdf format.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Ari to contact Drumlin Farm, Kanner Orchards, Mohammed, Margie Brown, Charlotte) re: Farm to Food Pantry program.

**Logo for the Lincoln Ag Comm**

Sherry reported that 14 logo designs submitted to the contest. (Note, 9 of the entries were variants of one design.) Selection of the winner will be made at the next Ag Comm meeting.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Sherry to combine the contest entrants into one message and distribute to the Ag Comm members.

### ***Other topics***

Sherry reported that she watched the film (on the Ag Comm website) about Lincoln's history of farming and greatly enjoyed it. She suggested encouraging people to watch the film as a way of encouraging visits to the Ag Comm website.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Sherry to promote the movie on the Ag Comm website (copyright Codman) about Lincoln's history of farming, e.g., posting a note on Lincoln Talk or the Squirrel.

There are few ways to send a message to Lincoln residents – Lincoln Talk, The Squirrel, mail a postcard to every household, hang a banner across a major road, include the info in an existing mailing such as the annual tax bill.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Sherry to find out how many people use Lincoln Talk and how many people subscribe to the Squirrel.

**\*\* 6/14/2022 Action Item** -- Karen to find out how many Lincoln people subscribe to NextDoor.

### ***Mosquito control opt out***

Louise is working with LLCT, Con Comm and the Board of Health to get Lincoln excluded from anti-mosquito spraying at the "town level." Buzz Constable, Michelle Barnes, and Michele Grzenda (Con Comm) and BoH

(Note: A logo would be useful in publicizing the Ag Comm's participation in this effort.). Any farm area sprayed would not be organic. Harvard and Lincoln are considered "high risk" for EEE, West Nile, etc. Harvard is also trying to get town-level exclusion from spraying. The Lincoln groups are tracking what Harvard does.

There are 2 mosquito traps in town whose contents are reviewed by the BoH. Monitoring the traps is expensive and so far Lincoln has not been able to obtain more traps.

Drumlin is handling opt-out by itself. An individual can apply to have his/her property not sprayed.

LLCT is working on a key requirement for opt-out which is to have a yearly campaign to educate people on what to do to mitigate risks from mosquito borne illnesses.

**8:55pm – Meeting adjourned**

Appendix A – Calendar for Food Pantry

Month	Date	Day	Time		Month	Date	Day	Time
January	12	Wednesday	8am - 6pm		July	13	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	13	Thursday	8am-1pm			14	Thursday	8am-1pm
	26	Wednesday	8am - 6pm			27	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	27	Thursday	8am-1pm			28	Thursday	8am-1pm
February	9	Wednesday	8am - 6pm		August	10	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	10	Thursday	8am-1pm			11	Thursday	8am-1pm
	23	Wednesday	8am - 6pm			24	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	24	Thursday	8am-1pm			25	Thursday	8am-1pm
March	9	Wednesday	8am - 6pm		September	14	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	10	Thursday	8am-1pm			15	Thursday	8am-1pm
	23	Wednesday	8am - 6pm			28	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	24	Thursday	8am-1pm			29	Thursday	8am-1pm
April	13	Wednesday	8am - 6pm		October	12	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	14	Thursday	8am-1pm			13	Thursday	8am-1pm
	27	Wednesday	8am - 6pm			26	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	28	Thursday	8am-1pm			27	Thursday	8am-1pm
May	11	Wednesday	8am - 6pm		November	9	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	12	Thursday	8am-1pm			10	Thursday	8am-1pm
	25	Wednesday	8am - 6pm			21	Monday	8am - 6pm
	26	Thursday	8am-1pm			22	Tuesday	8am-1pm
June	15	Wednesday	8am - 6pm		December	14	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	16	Thursday	8am-1pm			15	Thursday	8am-1pm
	29	Wednesday	8am - 6pm			28	Wednesday	8am - 6pm
	30	Thursday	8am-1pm			29	Thursday	8am-1pm