

Approved Minutes - 5/6/2021 (Approved 10/5/2021)
Weston Agricultural Commission

In attendance

3 current Members YetMing Chang, Avery Chaplin, Diana Chaplin.

Public in attendance: Pam Hess, Julie Hyde, Carol Burnes, Jeri Ikeda

Call to order at 2:00pm

No Citizens Comments were made

Discussion of Right to Farm

3 acre minimum discussion

Fill the two vacant positions on the Ag Com

Farm Updates

Gun Club Farm

20 laying hens

3 Beehives, 2 were lost over this past winter

Hawks and Owls are primary predators of laying hens

When chickens are attacked by Owls their heads are missing

New Queen bee seller called Bee Weaver out of Georgia

Land's Sake Farm Update

Land's Sake Farm is expanding farm and building a barn

New Farm Manager Brendan Murtha

Priorities are soil health and composting

Manure has been acquired by Beechwood Stables and a farm in Concord

Only using organic practices

52 gallons of maple sugar produced in 2021 Season, 10 gallons more than 2020

Hot peppers have been moved to pick your own section of farm

Multiple beds of a few varieties instead of a few beds of multiple varieties of hot peppers and Kale

Maintain poundage and reduce farmed acreage

One month away from farm stand opening

of CSA shares reduced to 290 small, large and winter

Wellington Farm renamed Gateways Farm in 2019.

Now being farmed by Waltham Fields Community Farm producing food for hunger relief

Last year fields were fallow

This year there is a plan to plant cover crops but no food crops

West side of farm sharing resources such as propane and fans with Land's Sake Farm

Greenhouse out of commission because of energy resource costs, and environmental impact relative to production output was not economical

Horses currently being boarded.

Lamb was born at sister, Nina Danforth's Weston property today

3 Oaks Farm of Weston

Growing blueberries and doberries

Looking for farmer to farm fields

Shared maple grove with Land's Sake Farm for syrup collection

Tractor is up and running in preparation for spring farm activities

Love Lane Honey Farm

5 Hives with only one making it through last winter

Bees that died left behind plenty of honey so it is thought they were not hungry. Bee bodies have been sent out for testing

This spring planted 150 lbs of organic pasture and pollinator grass seed for grazing animals and honey bees

Goat arrival planned for later this month

Hoping to get the Viles Farm and Elliston Farm involved

Carter Farm report. Continued haying of fields. Farm is within a half mile of Gun Club Farm

Avery Chaplin is the newly elected commission chair

Once a quarter Meetings

August 6th next meeting