

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission

c/o Department of Environmental Management 235 Promenade Street Providence, RI 02908



AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION COMMISSION Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 4:00 pm

COMMISION MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Ayars, Bevan Linsley, Diane Lynch, Kevin Nelson, Everett Stuart, Jon Reiner

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Hutchison, Martha Neale, David Wallace **STAFF:** Michelle Sheehan

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 by K. Nelson, Chair.

- 1. Reading and approval of the minutes of the meeting of 1/19/23. On a motion from J. Reiner and a second by E. Stuart, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the 1/19/22 minutes with abstentions from K. Ayars and D. Lynch.
- 2. Review of current ALPC budget. M. Sheehan provided an update on the current budget. The current balance is \$317,336.52 after obligations.
- 3. Status update of active farm projects. M. Sheehan provided an update on the following projects.
 - a. Steere Orchard, Austin Avenue, Smithfield appraisal issues being resolved
 - b. Brule, Market Street, Warren. Survey underway.
 - c. Andrews, Ten Rod Road, Exeter. Inactive
 - d. Tefft, Kenney Hill Road, Hopkinton. Pursuing a new deal, pending subordination issues
 - e. Schultz, Flat River Road, Coventry. Survey underway
 - f. Greenvale/Wapping, Wapping Road, Portsmouth. NRCS application in.
 - g. Gregg, 751 Saugatucket Road, South Kingstown. Subordination issues.
 - h. Zurlo, Moitoza Lane, Portsmouth. Closed
 - i. Jaswell, Swan Road, Smithfield. Appraisal has come in and is under review by landowners
- 4. Adams. Glen Rock Road, Exeter. Request to install a manure shed on the protected premises. The Commission found that the proposed structure is a permitted agricultural use and conforms to the provisions in the Deed to Development Rights. On a motion by D. Lynch and a second by E. Stuart, the Commission voted to approve the construction of the manure structure as proposed.
- 5. Adams. Glen Rock Road, Exeter. Request to install an underground utility line to power an existing diesel operated irrigation pump. The Commission found that the proposed utility line is a permitted agricultural use and conforms to the provisions in the Deed to Development

Rights. On a motion by J. Reiner and a second by B. Linsley, the Commission voted to approve the installation of the underground utility line as proposed.

- 6. Brandon. Liberty Lane, South Kingstown. Request to construct a 40x80 building for washing/packing the produce, cooler space and a farm store; and a 32x36 building for storing farm vehicles, equipment and tools. Brief discussion of request. Commission is generally supportive of the request, but requests additional information regarding the proposed plans. Staff to report back at next meeting.
- 7. Eligible farm prioritization (farms scored into the program). Present prioritization results from last meeting, continue ranking eligible farms. Discuss starting appraisals on new farms. Deferred.

There being no further business, on a motion by J. Reiner and a second by D. Lynch, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 4:51.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sheehan, DEM