



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Bureau of Agricultural Development & Resource Conservation

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FARMLAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 16, 2023

9:00 – 10:30am

BOARD MEEMBERS PRESENT:

- Will O’Meara (Chairperson), Jiff Martin (Chairperson), John Hall, Jason White, Robert Chang, Benjamin Freund, Joan Nichols, Ellie Angerame, Robin Chesmer, Terry Jones

DOAG STAFF PRESENT:

- Holly Lalime, Cam Weimar, Jaime Smith,

PUBLIC PRESENT:

- Chelsea Gazillo

Meeting Called to Order at 9:05AM by Chairperson Will O’Meara

Approve January Meeting Minutes:

- Jiff Martin made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes, Joan Nichols seconded the motion. Board voted to approve the meeting minutes. Ellie Angerame and Terry Jones abstained.

Nominations for board vacancies:

- Jiff Martin made a motion for board members to send their ranked voting for the vacant board seat to Holly Lalime and Will O’Meara by Thursday February 23rd. Holly will send the ranked list to Kayleigh Royston who will work with the Governor’s Office on an appointment. Robert Chang seconded that motion. Board voted in favor.
- Board members with expired appointments will e-mail Holly Lalime to inform her if they would like to be reappointment or have their position filled by someone else.

DOAG Motivations for PDR Subdivision Legislations:

- Board would like to see an improved notification and discussion process on future legislative proposals moving forward.

Decision tree for the use of ALE funds for PDR:

- The board and DOAG discussed strategies for deciding which projects factors should be considered when deciding whether or not to apply for ALE funding.

Discuss current and future staffing needs for stewardship within the Farmland Preservation Unit:

- This topic was not covered at this meeting.

Public Comment:

- Chelsea Gazillo: Recommended that Cris Coffin attend a future meeting for an ACEP ALE report out.

Jiff Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Robin Chesmer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.