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Chester, Clinton, Cromwell,
Deep River, Durham, East Haddam,
East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Kill-
ingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Mid-
dletown, Old Lyme,
Old Saybrook, Portland, Westbrook

LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

January 19, 2022

Members:

Chester:
Clinton: Richard Martin
Cromwell:
Deep River: Ron Larson
Durham: Warren Herzig
East Haddam:
East Hampton: -----
Essex: -----
Haddam: John Halfinger
Killingworth: Walter Adametz
Lyme:
Middlefield:
Middletown: Rebecca Isaacson
Old Lyme:
Old Saybrook:
Portland:
Westbrook: -----

Staff:

Janice Ehle/Meyer

Guests:

Meeting

The meeting was a Zoom call and in person at RiverCOG office.

1) Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by John Halfinger at 7:21. Warren Hertzig asked that Item 10 be changed to "The **P&Z** is talking about changing the acreage requirements....." A mo-

tion was made by Walter Adametz and seconded by John Halfinger to accept the minutes from the December 15, 2022, meeting. Motion approved.

2) Public Comments/Presentations

Tim Cook was asked to come back for another RAC meeting to talk about liquid calcium and components to add for soil amendments. He will be coming to the February 16, 2023 meeting.

3) RAC Board

We are in need of 8 Representatives for the RAC Board.

Cromwell
East Haddam
East Hampton
Essex
Lyme
Middlefield
Old Lyme
Westbrook

4) Website

A. New Farmer of the Month – David Brown, Old Saybrook, CT
B. Technology night – January 26th at 7:00 at the RiverCOG office
C. Janice reviewed the stats from the last month. 48 site sessions averaging 6 min 41 secs. Desktop 58% mobil42%. 37 of the hits were direct. 58% logged in directly to knowyourfarmers.

5) Farm Viability Grant

A. Trailer – arriving early February. Richard will ask Rand at Kahn Tractor about them registering the trailer.
B. Demo Day – March 2nd
C. Richard Martin distributed some information about;

- “Sharing is Caring with Farm Equipment” – Hawthorne Valley Association
- “Transition Grant in Action”: Birch Mill Farm Partnership. Janice will contact them for questions and consumables from Esch.

6) CEDS Grant

Healthy PlanEat has the revised grant and their lawyers are reviewing it.

7) Department of Agriculture Grant – Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry Grant

3 letters of recommendation: RC&D, Ct River Coastal Conservation District, Balyee Drown

8) Local farm composting project

Baylee Drown from Long Table Farm, Lyme, CT is proposing a project to build an indoor aerated static compost pile to supply compost and potting soil for the region.

9) Lyme Planning Commission

Lyme has a proposed Agriculture section for their POCD. There is a lot of information to review and a meeting on February 2, 2023 at 7:00pm is scheduled.

10) Lumber Processing – Salem

The application for the application to permit firewood materials processing in rural Zone A via Special Exception was reviewed with comments:

1. Allowed by Right
2. A 500' setback if big.

11) Old Business

- A. Tech night – Thursday, January 26th at 7:00
- B. Farm Energy program done by RC&D is coming up, more info to follow.

12) New Business

A. Walter Adametz talked about the Killingworth Conservation Committee – Roselyn Reeps, would like to come to a RAC meeting to talk about veggie waste to feed animals. Roselyn will be asked to come to the February meeting.

12) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:49.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Ehle/Meyer

Speakers at next meeting;
Roselyn Reeps
Tim Cook
BarbaraHageman