

# TOWN OF FRANKLIN

## AGRICULTURE AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

FRANKLIN TOWN HALL  
7 MEETINGHOUSE HILL RD.  
FRANKLIN, CT 06254

### MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 16, 2023, 7:30PM

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1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

**Members Present:** Vice Chairman Alan Holmberg, Gail Miller, Chairman Mike Miner, Roland Mihok, Craig Staebner

**Alternate Member Present:** Mackenzie Beckwith

2. Recognition of Visitors:

3. Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2023:

**MOTION 1** made by Roland Mihok **SECONDED BY** Alan Holmberg that the AgCon Commission approve February 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes – as presented

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

4. Old Business

- a. Ag Commission recommendations for Zoning Regulations:

**SOLAR FARMS:** should not be in prime or important agricultural farmlands. If the project must use land that is considered prime or important farmland, the developer must be responsible for returning the land to a productive agricultural condition at the end of the useful life of the solar project.

**OUTDOOR LIGHTING:** should be shielded to prevent light from leaving the property, keep in the desired area only. Outdoor lighting should not interfere or be a hazard to drivers on the road. A general requirement for all industrial, commercial, and residential applications.

**PROMOTE FARMS:** consider ways to promote new and help maintain existing small farms and farm businesses in town.

- b. Ag Commission social media platform update:

Weekly posts moving forward. Looking for photograph submissions from local farms to be featured on Ag Comm page on Facebook/Instagram. Historical photos/stories are welcomed as well.

5. New Business:

- a. Look into slow moving farm equipment signage on Route 32 in North Franklin.

6. Public Comment: None

7. Adjournment:

**MOTION 2** made by Gail Miller **SECONDED BY** Craig Staebner that AGCON adjourn at 8:43 PM.

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Miner & Sherry Pollard