



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
AGRICULTURE AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION [AgCon]**

**FRANKLIN TOWN HALL
7 Meetinghouse Hill Rd.
Franklin, CT 06254**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday, March 21, 2019
7:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Susan Allen called the meeting to order at 7:45pm.

Members Present: Chairperson Susan Allen, Vice Chair Alan Holmberg, Gail Miller.

Alternate Member Present: Roland Mihok. **Alternate Members Absent:** Chester Rynaski & Craig Staebner

2. Recognition of Visitors and Initial Inquiries: NONE

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. **February 21, 2019.**

MOTION #1 (3.21.19): made by Alan Holmberg SECONDED BY Roland Mihok that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission approve the Minutes of February 21, 2019 as amended:

1) Clarification: Minutes were submitted by Sherry Pollard

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

4. Call for Additional Agenda Item: NONE

5. Correspondence: NONE

6. Old Business

- a. **FRANKLIN HILLS GOLF COURSE:** Susan Allen presented a conservation easement 'template' originally received from a State Conservation Organization. Experts in the field were brought together and collaborated on the creation of the template. Susan Allen will talk with Charlie Grant, the First Selectman, to determine if this template would be helpful when reviewing the Franklin Hills Estates & Country Club, LLC Golf Course conservation easements.

7. New Business:

- a. **RT 207 BRIDGE RESTORATION - #06787 & 06788:** Commission members looked over maps and discussed the location of the bridge. The Restoration Project involves the State of CT Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental and Energy Protection. Roland Mihok had attended a recent meeting with Town of Franklin Officials and it was noted that Route 207 would not have to be shut down during the course of the restoration project. The process calls for "pushing out" the old piping and inserting new without the need for a road closure.

- b. **FARM BUREAU NEWS:** Alan Holmberg reported that Ag Day was held at the Capitol on March 20, 2019. There was discussion on the upcoming Tri-town Workshop involving the Town's of Bozrah, Franklin, and Lebanon. Workshop topics will include non-traditional crops, such as, grain and hemp. Mr. Holmberg will be speaking at the Workshop on behalf of the Town of Franklin and the Ag Con Commission.
- c. **LAND CONSERVATION EFFORTS:** Results from the grant submissions for the Peltier and Morehouse properties have not been released at this point. Susan Allen spoke about the 100 acre Horelik property on Pautipaug Hill that might be of interest.
- d. **EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP:** Last year AgCon sponsored the Franklin Hike in the Sprague Land Preserve with over 60 people from CT, RI and MA attending. Also last year, AgCon members participated in trash pick-up event on town roads. Only a few Franklin residents attended this event. The Town will hold the event again this year on April 20, 2019 and some members of AgCon will participate.

8. General Comments: NONE

9. Public Comment: NONE

10. Adjournment:

MOTION #2 (3.21.19): made by Roland Mihok SECONDED BY Gail Miller that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Pollard

Susan Allen Chairman

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