

MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2024 AGRIBUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
AT EAST LYME HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS

Members present: Tom Kalal, Tom Yuhas, Terri Yuhas

Meeting opened at 6:45pm.

Delegates – none

November Minutes – approved 3 – 0

Discussion on potential Agriculture Education Topics.

Terri and Tom Yuhas have joined the Ct Maple Syrup Producers Association with the objective of learning about Maple Syrup production to help with future education topics.

Terri Yuhas spoke with Devon O’Keefe from the Ledyard Vocational Agriculture High School. Devon stated that the Ledyard Agriculture Program Curriculum often utilizes the “Ag in the Classroom” websites. Devon has offered to provide a tour for the East Lyme Agriculture Sub-committee; however, the tour will need to wait until late March due to lambing and kidding schedules.

Winter Seminars – Agribusiness Winter Lecture Series (2024)

Saturday January 27th 2pm – “Alternative Landscapes that Benefit Water Quality”. (Set up by Marjorie Meekhoff of Pollinator Pathways)

Saturday February 3rd 2pm – T.J. Londregan will present “Niantic Bay Shellfish Farms: Current Production and Future Operations” (snow date Feb 10th). East Lyme Room East Lyme Library. (Set up by the Agribusiness Sub-committee)

Friday March 8th 10am – “DOT 161 Interchange Project”. DOT Field Office Suite 215, 339 Flanders Road, Latimer Brook Commons, East Lyme. (Snow data Friday March 15th). (Set up by Marjorie Meekhoff of Pollinator Pathways)

Saturday March 23rd 2pm – “Connecticut’s Eastern Coyote”. (Set up by Marjorie Meekhoff of Pollinator Pathways)

Saturday April 6th 3pm – “Benefits of Local, Sustainably Grown Food”. East Lyme Room East Lyme Library. (Set up by the Agribusiness Sub-committee)

Additional Items/Reports

January 14th 6pm – The Potluck Party for Preservationists was held at the Niantic Community Church 170 Pennsylvania Ave. The event was well attended. Dan Cunningham (East Lyme First Selectman) also attended and provided opening remarks for the group. He shared gratitude and

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support for the work done by each of the groups. Each group in attendance provided a synopsis on their 2023 accomplishments as well as an overview of their 2024 goals. Mark Christensen was the MC as well as providing a summary for a few groups who were unable to attend. Terri Yuhas provided the synopsis for the Agribusiness Sub-Committee.

Tom Kalal provided an article from the Natural Farmer publication titled "There is enough food, just not enough Food Access" that he recommended by reviewed by the group for future discussion.

It was also requested that the Sub-Committee reach out to determine if an annual report is created for the State of Ct on Agriculture.

Terri and Tom Yuhas will reach out to identify a local 4-H club in the area to determine the best way to get involved. Tom Kalal will provide a contact for the local Equine 4-h club.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Next Meeting: 21Feb2024

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Yuhas

Secretary, East Lyme Agribusiness sub-committee