Agricultural Commission 12/2/21 Meeting Notes

Present: Anna, Bi-sek, Erin, Sadie

Wolf Tree Farm

Details of the letter to Kurt Thibault assessing his willingness to attend a mediated meeting to discuss the farm's use of a noise cannon were finalized and appears below:

December 2, 2021 Dear Kurt,

As you are aware, Plainfield has a Right-to-Farm by-law and the Agricultural Commission was instrumental in getting Plainfield residents to pass that by-law. The Agricultural Commission is interested in supporting agriculture in Plainfield and helping to encourage responsible agricultural practices.

The Agricultural Commission of Plainfield has been asked by the Select Board to offer to mediate a meeting between concerned Plainfield residents and yourself about the use of noise producing equipment at your farm.

Our role would be to provide a forum for the various parties to get together to hear each other out and see if there is an acceptable compromise or solution that could be satisfactory to all parties.

To that end we would like to ask if you are willing to attend a mediated meeting. The meeting could be in person or by ZOOM. Can you let us know some days and times that would work for you in the first three weeks of January?

From The Plainfield Agricultural Commission: Anna Hanchett (Chair), Bi-sek Hsiao, Erin Kelly-Dill, Ed Stockman, and Sarah Stull

Action items: Anna will send the letter in her role as Chair.

Budget

Discussed releasing the Ag Comm's financial responsibility for the Pollinator Garden. Ann Williamson and Elaine Sidney have applied for a Cultural Council grant that would help fund the garden. The Ag Comm will fund publicity and educational materials as part of the public campaign related to the town's optout from the state mosquito spraying program (summer 2021 materials and future needs). We are funding a presentation by Emily Stockman about mosquitoes at Sanderson in the spring.

Minutes

The November meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Action items: Erin will contact Brian Hawthorne for instructions on posting minutes to Plainfield's website.