

Minutes of the work session of the Winslow Agriculture Commission held on April 6, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 21 Williamson Avenue, Winslow, Arizona.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Berry Larson
Commissioner Mansfield
Commissioner Westwood
Commissioner Wood

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Beall
Commissioner Hester

STAFF

Suzy Wetzel, City Clerk
Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary
Councilmember Samantha Crisp

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larson at 4:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed. Roll was called and Commissioners Beall and Hester were absent. Motion: Moved by Commissioner Westwood, seconded by Commissioner Mansfield, to excuse the absent members. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Mansfield, Westwood and Wood voting yes.

DISCUSSION TO ESTABLISH COMMISSION VISION AND GOALS

Chairperson Larson began the discussion by reviewing language contained in the resolution that established the Agriculture Commission, specifically the purpose of the Commission to promote and encourage development of agriculture within the City of Winslow, develop plans for food stability in the community, examine policies within the city to support the agricultural industry and identify relevant grant opportunities.

Chairperson Larson referred to Commissioner Westwood’s request at the first meeting for the section of the City Code pertaining to bees and chickens wherein Commissioner Westwood stated that he is in agreement with the language concerning bees but he is not in agreement on how the code reads concerning chickens. After further discussion regarding the fact that Commissioner Westwood would like to pursue making a recommendation to the City Council to change the code, the City Clerk stated that the section of the code concerning chickens is included in the Zoning Code and amendments must be considered by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Due to the fact that Commissioner Westwood was not in attendance at the last meeting where goals were discussed by each member, and at the request of Chairperson Larson, Commissioner Westwood stated that the reason he joined the commission is to promote gardening within the community and due to his interest in egg-laying chickens.

Chairperson Larson then distributed a pad of sticky notes to each member, including Councilmember Crisp, and requested that each person write their goals on a sticky note (one goal per sticky note) for further discussion. The City Clerk provided clarification that approval of goals would have to take place at a regular meeting.

After the sticky notes were compiled, the following goals received one vote:

Solar for homes, food sales, gardening, community greenhouse, Rain Barrel Program, bulk top soil, Pumpkin Patch, mini ornamental gardens, water rebate for home gardeners, ground cover alternatives

and relationships with FFA, 4-H, Community Garden & Cooperative Extension

The following were goals that received two votes:

Chickens/eggs, composting, edible landscaping and grants/funding

The following were goals that received three votes:

City Farm & Agriculture Co-ops, Tree City, orchard, arboretum and food preservation

The following were goals that received five votes:

Farmers Market and education

After a group discussion regarding the goals that were identified, the following topics were consolidated and selected:

1. Farmers Market (Commissioner Mansfield will take lead on this topic)
2. Education/Food Preservation
3. Tree City/Orchard/Arboretum
4. City Farm
5. Chicken/Egg production (Commissioner Westwood will take lead on this topic)
6. Grant Funding/Grant Creating

There was a detailed discussion regarding the Farmers Market and the suggestion was made that the City Attorney be invited to an upcoming meeting to answer specific questions and provide guidance with regard to a Farmers Market policy.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Mansfield, seconded by Commissioner Wood, to adjourn at 5:42 p.m. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Mansfield, Westwood and Wood voting yes.

Chairperson Berry Larson

ATTEST:

Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary