

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow Agriculture Commission held on March 16, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 21 Williamson Avenue, Winslow, Arizona. All members of the Commission attended telephonically.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Berry Larson
Commissioner Beall
Commissioner Hester
Commissioner Richard Larson
Commissioner Mansfield
Commissioner Wood

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Westwood

STAFF

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larson at 4:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the invocation was given by Chairperson Larson. Roll was called and Commissioner Westwood was absent. Prior to the following motion being made, Chairperson Larson expressed her appreciation to city staff and Councilmember Crisp for their assistance and support with development of the commission.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Mansfield, to excuse the absent member. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Beall, Hester, Larson, Mansfield and Wood voting yes.

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2022

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Mansfield, seconded by Commissioner Wood, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Beall, Hester, Larson, Mansfield and Wood voting yes.

COMMISSION CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

A. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Introduction Forum from Members, Vision Development and Goal Planning

At the request of Chairperson Larson, each member was asked to tell about themselves and provide a background of their experience as it relates to the commission. Several members noted that they have been involved with the Farmers Market. Each member also discussed their goals for the commission which included developing a nature preserve north of the City Farm, educate community about gardening, dry farming, small business development opportunities and making Winslow a better place to live.

Councilmember Crisp announced that she started a micro farm business in January to provide fresh produce for the Farmers Market since Coffee Pot Farms has been accepted to the Flagstaff Farmers Market. Councilmember Crisp also stated that she is currently working with the Economic Development Director on a Farmers Market Promotion Program grant opportunity for both the Agriculture Commission and the Farmers Market.

The City Manager spoke briefly about his wife’s interest in herbal remedies and stated that he and his family have enjoyed the Farmers Market experience. The City Manager referred to the resolution establishing the Agriculture Commission that was adopted by the City Council and extended an open invitation for members of the commission to

contact him with any questions they might have.

After discussion regarding a possible work session to further discuss vision development and goal planning, the following motion was made:

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Mansfield, to set up a work session on an upcoming Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Beall, Hester, Larson, Mansfield and Wood voting yes.

B. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Farmers Market Season Including But Not Limited to Start Date and Hours of Operation

Chairperson Larson stated that last year the Farmers Market began on April 10th when the weather was still cold impacting produce and plants. Commissioner Mansfield stated that she felt that May 7th is a better suited date to start the Farmers Market with the time remaining 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Councilmember Crisp was also in agreement that May 7th is a good start date.

Councilmember Crisp discussed information from cell phone data tracking that she received from the Economic Development Director indicating that roughly 13,000 individuals came through the area of the Farmers Market on any given Saturday with the peak time being 10:30 to 11:30.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Mansfield, seconded by Commissioner Wood for the Farmers Market to start on Saturdays beginning May 7th from 9:00 to 12:00. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Beall, Hester, Larson, Mansfield and Wood voting yes. Prior to voting on the motion, Commissioner Mansfield inquired about the final date for the Farmers Market Wherein Chairperson Larson stated that could be discussed at a future meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairperson Larson referenced the upcoming work session to discuss goals and vision and stated that discussion regarding the end date for the Farmers Market should be placed on an upcoming agenda.

Commissioner Mansfield requested that discussion regarding advertising for the Farmers Market be placed on a future agenda.

Commissioner Larson stated that he would like to discuss signage for the Farmers Market and suggested that the commission coordinate with the Arts Council to avoid any conflict with their events in the downtown area.

Commissioner Hester requested that he would like to discuss designation of a Farmers Market Manager in further detail.

The City Manager referred to items discussed at the first meeting as referenced in the minutes that were just approved stating that future agendas can be prepared in conjunction with those requests. The City Clerk advised that she will prepare tentative agendas for review by the chairperson before final distribution to the commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Mansfield, to adjourn at 5:10 p.m. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Larson and Commissioners Beall, Hester, Larson, Mansfield and Wood voting yes.

Chairperson Berry Larson

ATTEST:

Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary