

Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition, Inc.

Tuesday, February 9, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
UVM Extension Office
23 Pond Lane, Middlebury, VT



Business Meeting Minutes

10:00 am – 11:00 am Board of Directors – Director's Only Session

10:02 Meeting Called to Order

Brian Kemp moves to go into a Director's only business meeting

Second: Loren Wood

Passed

Election of Officers for 2016

Motion to nominate Brian Kemp as president: Loren Wood

Second: Lorenzo Whitcomb

Discussion: Brian accepted nomination

Passed without abstention or dissent

Motion to nominate Marie Audet as Vice President: David Conant

Second: Ernie Audet

Discussion: Marie accepted

Passed without abstention or dissent

Motion to nominate Kirsten Workman and Jeff Carter as Secretary and Treasurer

Motion: Loren Wood

Second: Ernie Audet

Passed without abstention or dissent

Membership Applications

Revisit Protocol (Discussion)

Should membership application process be changed to be during director's only session?

Maintaining level of integrity and standards of water quality

Don't want to present something that doesn't represent CVFC

Change application to have an intent statement and identify a current Director sponsor?

Let directors know ahead of time of new applicants?

Go to director's only session to approve applications?

Signed to agree to goals/mission (need to revisit mission)?

Move to adjourn from Director's Only Session: Ernie Audet

Second: Eric Clifford

Passed without abstention or dissent

Motion to change protocol to go into directors only session (15 minutes) when approving applications:

Ernie Audet

Second: Rachel Orr

Discussion:

Passed without abstention or dissention

New Applicants

Class 1 – Vermont Farmer Voting Member:

Miles & Cheryl Tudhope, Tudhope Farm LLC (Orwell)

Andre Desautel, Desautel Dairy (Bridport)

Robert & Susan Hunt, Bonaspectra Holsteins (Addison)

Elwin Neill, Neill Farm LLC (Waitsfield)

Class 3 – Non-Voting Business Members

Thomas Eaton, Ag Consulting Service (Richmond)

SeedWay (Shoreham)

Motion to accept all application: Marie Audet

Second: Eric Clifford

Discussion: need to be clear about goals

Passed without abstention or dissention

Secretary Report

Motion to accept January Minutes: Ernie Audet

Second: Brian Kemp

Passed without abstention or dissention

Treasurer Report (Jeff)

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Ernie Audet

Second: Loren Wood

Discussion: taxes coming....working with R. Manney to prepare those

Passed without abstention or dissention

KLF Funds & Position Description

Contract as written limited it to 12 months

Proposed to write an amendment to include the ability for a no-cost extension to expand to 24 months

Ad in paper ASAP...Free Press, Seven Days, Addison Independent, UVM, Cornell, Craigslist

Other Issues

11:00am Farmer Coalition Open Meeting

What do you want the coalition to do and achieve this year? We will spend the second half of our meeting talking with our members to lay out our goals and objectives for 2016. We will plan and discuss future meetings, workshops, and where/how to target our time and efforts.

We will be having a great conversation, so come and have YOUR VOICE HEARD about the future of the organization!

▪ Other Business

– CLF Petition...review

- CVFC would be well served to focus on implementing BMPs

– Ryan Patch, DRAFT 2 RAPs

- Feb. 23rd 1-4, Mar. 3rd, 9-12, March 8th 9-12 are Ryan's available times
- Group decided to discuss at CVFC March 2nd Meeting as a group, follow up with Ryan on March 8th.
- March 11th to legislation

– Manure Management Extravaganza (Manure Madness)

- UVM Extension will be coordinating with Nate/CVFC to offer some manure management trainings in March. We will cover topics related to new rules/RAPs, how to use an NMP effectively, road and field safety while spreading, new technology, record keeping, etc.
- Similar setup to Spring 2014 soil health day w/ follow up clinics

– Vermont Fruit & Veg Association

- Kirsten expressed interest in engaging more vegetable growers in CVFC and thought it might be worth exploring reaching out to their association to engage them in more discussions. She offered to reach out to current veg grower CVFC members, Paul Feenan & Will Stevens to identify opportunities to engage more veg farmers. One idea was to have a veg-centered 'Crop Patrol' this growing season.

– Response to legislature

- We should be ready to testify regarding RAPs and other issues. Should have multiple folks available so it doesn't fall on one person.

– Soybeans

- As there are more and more soybeans being grown in the Champlain Valley, UVM Extension and CVFC intend to engage in more field trials, crop patrols and other information surrounding BMPs and agronomic practices for soybean production

- Eric expressed his desire to try and take advantage of 'out of area' farmers when they are in town for other reasons. Have them come and talk to CVFC while they are here.

– Keep our integrity and vision

- _____
- _____

*12:10 Motion to adjourn: Ernie Audet
Second: Eric Clifford
Meeting adjourned.*

12:00 ADJOURN Meeting

Reminder: Next CVFC Board of Directors Meeting – March 2nd, 2016