

Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition, Inc.

UVM Extension Office
23 Pond Lane, Middlebury, VT



Wednesday, August 2, 2017
Directors Business Meeting

9:30am

No quorum...could not vote on business items

President's Report *Brian*
General Comments

Secretary's Report *Kirsten*
Review July Minutes and Approve

Approve New Members *Kirsten*
Membership applications to consider today:
Class 1:
Jack Forgues, Forgues Dairy (Addison)

Treasurer's Report *Jeff*
Approve Financial Statements

Bourdeau Brothers Addison County Ag Showcase *Nate/Jeff*
Does CVFC want to have a booth/sponsor?
\$150 for Bronze, \$250 for Silver, \$350 for Gold
September 7, 2017
Will host a booth, going to ask for a free spot.

Addison County Ag Conversation with Jon Turner, Rural Vermont, NOFA, Others
Waiting to hear back from Jon Turner
Panton/Lake Champlain Homeowner Meeting
Use videos, educational

OVER →

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10:00

Wednesday, August 2, 2017 **General Membership Meeting**

Welcome & President's Report

RAP Development Committee Input

No meeting in August, postponed.

Meeting with VAAFM Leadership recap *Brian/Jeff/All*

Meeting on 7-20-17

Talked a lot about RAP development,

Next meeting propose for September 6th after CVFC Directors

Follow-up on previous talked about items...include

Breakfast on the Farm Recap *Marie/Louise*

Positive reaction from the public, lots of learning, people were engaged

Take-Away

Farmer Ambassador..."I'm a Farmer, Ask Me a Question"

Volunteer Training was a great resource too.

Clean Water Week Event *Jeff/Nate*

ANR asked Governor to declare third week of August as Clean Water Week.

CVFC & UVM Extension hosting an event on August 23rd at Rob Hunt's. Cover Crops, Roller-Crimper no-till corn, water quality monitoring, invite media, invite

Addison County Field Days *Jeff/Nate*

Display

Raffle, door prize,

Program Update *Nate*

Clean Water Fund grant reporting will start. Will be doing 12 over the next year.

- What to expect at your inspection events...starting in mid-late September (Louise can help set up farms)
- October = manure

October 24th ...a group of rural chaplains coming to Vermont for their annual tour. Would like to meet with farms in northern Addison County. Farm First could be there also.

Extension Update *Jeff*

East Creek & McKenzie Brook grant awarded

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Tile Drainage Sampling RFP

- State got a recommendation that there was not enough data about tile drainage
- 10 farms here, 10 up north, sampling every other week, anonymous, Agency runs samples

Governor's Climate Action Commission *Marie*

Marie Audet has been appointed to represent agriculture on the Governor's Climate Action Commission. She would like input from the group on how to leverage this opportunity to further the vision, mission of CVFC. She has administrative support from Sec. Tebbetts' office. She is also wondering if she should develop a team of other members.

- Cant' do it on her own.
- Identify things that can be measured, will have impact,
- Kirsten will put her in touch with Joshua Faulkner
- September...Paul Costello climate change conference, Paul Hawkins is keynote
- Message and information that she can use in
- Town overlay maps for suitable uses...solar, wind, biomass. Regional Planning Commission holds that information.

Phoenix Feeds 'Perspectives' Article *Louise/Kirsten*

David Santos has given CVFC the opportunity to help craft an article in their magazine to highlight the work of CVFC farmers. Louise and Kirsten will share initial ideas and get feedback before submitting an outline the reporter/author.

- Let members know, and give them opportunity to 'opt out' of listing them
- Stats, about us
- Make sure we see it ahead of time

Media Training *Nate/Laura Hardie*

Laura Hardie is working with Nate to put together a media training for directors/members. We need to pick a date/time in late fall or early winter so Laura can schedule accordingly.

- Laura thought it would be good to tag onto meeting, but our group felt that would be too much for one day.
- Date...early December.
- Teasers at other workshops
- 2-3 hours
- Directors

Other Business

Time to address additional agenda items brought by members.

- Vermont Business for Social Responsibility. One of the current focus topics is water quality. Series of legislative workshops. Opportunity to engage with that group (have to be a member, Cabot). James Ehlers has been very engaged in the policy level of that group.
- Stakeholder group idea (Cabot uses for indirect discharge permit) to be proactive.

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- Separate newsletter for public, collaborate with other groups. 'Drive-by' farmer info...what's going on there? Members could use as their own 'newsletter'.
- Newtrient met with UVM Extension about Clean Water Fund and aligning with other work. They were thankful for that opportunity.
- VT Farm Bureau Meeting on 8-31-17. Lyn Demarais' Farm
- Tour de Farms this weekend.

12:00 ADJOURN Meeting

Reminder: Next CVFC Board of Directors Meeting – Sept. 6, 2017