

Franklin Agricultural Commission
Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2023
(Hybrid Meeting)

***In Attendance:** Members Present: Roger Trahan, Marian Szymanski, C.J. Koshivas, and Nick Capoccia. Also present: Ed Szymanski and Mel Hamblen.*

1. Opening:

- A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm pm by Roger Trahan.
- B. Roll Call: Four members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.
- C. The Minutes of our July 31st meeting were approved.

2. Old Business:

A. Zucchini Race: The Agricultural Commission's Annual Zucchini Race was held on August 18th. Seventeen vehicles (made from squash and other veggies!) were entered in the event. The event gathered a lot of attention and more Franklin residents began to follow the AgCom page!

B. Town of Franklin "Master Plan"- The Ten Year Planning Group is currently working on the creation of our 10-year Master Plan. The Agricultural Commission would like to see making Franklin a "Right to Farm" town a part of this 10-year Master Plan. Our next Meeting will include the town of Medway's Agricultural Commission. We will discuss the specific steps they took to make Medway a Right-to-Farm Town.

C. Annual Pumpkin Weigh-In Event: At the final Summer Farmer's Market of the year, October 27th, Franklin youth will bring in the pumpkins started at an earlier Farmer's Market to be weighed!

3. New Business:

A. Franklin Summer Farmer's Market: It was noted that the Summer Farmer's Markets have become very much community events. Families are coming early to the Market and staying all afternoon and even into the evening when there are musical performers. Suggestions for future Summer Market events include:

1. A Sunflower Contest
2. A "Grange or 4-H type of fair" featuring fruit and veggie contests, honey-tasting, apple judging, etc.

B. Winter Farmer's Markets: The Winter Market at Fairmount Fruit Farm will begin on November 18th. Plans have been made to include more farms. C.J. will provide flyers for the Market.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Marian Szymanski