



**MINUTES  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION  
August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**OPENING:** 7:00 p.m. Chairman Hansen opened the hybrid work session by announcing the members in attendance, date and time of the meeting.

**ATTENDANCE**

Burt Hansen, Chairman	Present
Dan Cook, Commissioner	Present
Zach Barnett, Commissioner	Present
Ron Cecchini, Commissioner	Absent
Lenita Bober, Alternate	Absent
Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon, Alternate	Absent
Maryssa Cook-Obregon, Commissioner	Present
Sage Fury, Commissioner	Present
Anglie Simone, Alternate	Present
Jessica Whitmore Parker, Alternate	Present

**Guest**

Inga Hotaling- 49 Kline Rd

**Debriefing – OPEN FARM DAY**

Chairman Burt Hansen started the meeting by applauding everyone that had involvement with Southwick's First Annual Open Farm Day!

Inga Hotaling- Inga went on to congratulate the success of Open Farm Day. The entire day went smoothly with no problems. With such success it leaves a great statistic that it was managed beautifully and will only get better for future Open Farm Day's here in Southwick.

**Open Farm Day Prizes-**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Prize</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Klein View Stables	\$50 Gift Certificate for Terra Americana	Kevin Fenton
Cowards Farm	30 Piece Gift Wrapping set	Christine
Solek Farm	\$30 Gift Card to Millie's Country Store	Amy
Calabrese Farms	17 Piece Mark K Gift Set	Kathy

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Southwick Historical S	\$25 Gift Card Country Colonial	Debbie
Blossoming Acres	\$50 57 Hair	508 telephone number
Sun Flower Patch	Wireless Charging Pad W/Amazon Gift Card	Hope
Donation	Yankee Candle set	Bella
Donation	Bird House	Laure Gracia
Donation	Carolyn Avery Painting	Sarah 860
	2-\$25 BigY Gift Card	Greg, Chris
	\$100 dollars to tractor Supply	Abbie

### **Open farm day census-**

Klein View Stables- 209 visitors  
Cowards Farm- 127 visitors  
Solek Farms- 200 visitors  
Calabrese Farms- 95 visitors  
Blossoming Acres- 210 visitors  
Arnolds SunFlower – 182 visitors  
Firefly Farms- 335 visitors

Inga Hotaling- Presented the potential Thankyou Gift she put together for the farms that participated in Open Farm Day.

The commission had a conversation on what they could do better for future Open Farm Days such as giving a better description on what the farms are offering that day and where to park. A possible time change to allow visitors to see more of Open Farm Day. Changing the map so numbers flow in a better driving path.

Potential luncheon to give thanks to the volunteers for their hard work on Open Farm Day. More information to come as it becomes available.

### **Mike Pictruska Farm-A-Rama**

Spoke on the Panel that will presented at the BigE this year in the Farm-A-Rama building. This panel will be for the Southwick Agricultural Commission and share the mission statement. The panel will also share some of the Farms here in town with photos



from Open Farm Day along with a QR code from the Agricultural Commission web site.  
“Agriculture is our culture”

Chairman Hansen- Brought up the possibility of a Farm Fair in the spring to kick off the 2024 Farming Season and shed light on the Second Annual Open Farm Day that will take place in August 2024.

Next meeting September 13<sup>th</sup> 2023

Commissioner Barnett **made** a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fury **seconded** the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cynthia Barton, Secretary

cc:  
Select Board  
Town Clerk

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Burt Hansen, Chairman

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Maryssa Cook-Obregon, Commissioner

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Dan Cook, Commissioner

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Ron Cecchini, Commissioner

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Tammy Ciak-Bissaillon, Alternate

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Lenita Bober, Alternate

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Zach Barnett, Commissioner

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Sage Fury, Commissioner

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Angie Simone, Alternate  
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+ Jessica Whitmore Parker, Alternate



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Date