

Town of Canandaigua

5440 Routes 5 & 20 West
Canandaigua, New York 14424

MINUTES

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2018, 6:00 P.M.

Meeting Called by:	Mark Stryker, Chair
Committee Members present:	Mark Stryker, Chair Bob DiCarlo, Vice Chair Gary Davis Tim Riley Fernando Soberon
Town Representatives:	Doug Finch, Town Manager Sarah Reynolds, Development Office
Guests:	Jacob Amidon, program development, FLCC Gary Jones, Finger Lakes Agricultural Museum

➤ **CALL TO ORDER**

1. Mark Stryker called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

➤ **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

1. Mark Stryker passed around an article (attached here) about a collaboration between Bayer and 4-H called Science Matters – encourage interest in agricultural science among youth
2. Gary Jones of the Finger Lakes Agricultural Museum spoke about the plans to develop a historical agricultural museum on the old Oliver Farm in Hopewell. Ray Henry has also been involved in this project. Gary Jones passed around a flyer (attached here) explaining the vision for the Museum.

➤ **REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

None at this time

➤ **REFERRALS**

None at this time.

➤ **OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

1. Agricultural Education Partnerships (2nd meeting for this topic – cont'd. from Dec. meeting)
 - a. BOCES – no one from BOCES was in attendance
 - b. FLCC – Jacob Amidon from program development at FLCC came to discuss FLCC's

new (in the works) agricultural education program. They would like to add/expand agriculture in their credit-based programs. the goal is a 2-year degree

- i. specific program will focus on agriculture in any of the following ways: science, research, agribusiness, agricultural technology, etc. They haven't gotten far enough in the process to decide this yet.
 - ii. Currently the mechanical tech program has some contact with the ag community via the food and beverage program (farm to table) – this could be expanded with the new ag program.
 - iii. Fernando – Cornell had a program for basic Animal Science/agriculture as a requirement for all students (just a basic class or set of classes) to give them a general agricultural knowledge
 - iv. Doug – the County is upgrading their agricultural program
 - v. Gary Jones – Marcus Whitman has a very active FFA program
 - vi. Mark Stryker – Canandaigua Academy has no FFA – membership in a local FFA chapter is a requirement for many agricultural scholarships so that puts any local CA students automatically out of the running for those scholarships.
 - vii. Someone asked if Amy Jones from BOCES could start an FFA program (or has she already begun this process) at BOCES? Other local BOCES programs are doing this.
 - viii. Doug – this committee could ask Senator Helming or Congressman Kolb for help locally with agricultural education – budget season is starting
 - ix. Tim Riley – more state education help for funding for ag programs through BOCES – expand and work with high schools to get a certified ag program.
 - x. Jacob Amidon – FLCC is working towards this but we have no credit based ag program yet.
 - xi. Someone asked what Ag and Markets may have or may do for us locally with ag education – we could ask John Brennan
 - xii. Tim Riley – industry could be a source of ag education funding (i.e. John Deer course on mechanical farming equipment)
 1. Mark added that those industries are in desperate need of people to learn to work on large farming equipment – not any mechanic can fix a combine. This is an educational opportunity that's lacking.
- c. Next Steps?
- i. It was suggested that this group sponsor a large scale agricultural forum focusing on education sometime this year if possible.
 1. This could be in conjunction with the fair or separate (or repeated at both)
 2. Focus on jobs in agriculture to see a connection between agricultural education and the workforce.
 3. Invitees could include: FLCC, County Ag Board, BOCES, the Cdga City School District, Marcus Whitman School District, Victor School District, Pam Helming, Brian Kolb, Local Municipalities, other non-profit Ag groups, Gary Jones's Museum group, the Farm Bureau, the local USDA people, Cooperative Extension, FFA

➤ **MEMBERS' REPORTS**

1. Feb 6, 2018 – Succession Planning event at the Town Hall for Ag landowners and family farm owners – this event is hosted by this Committee.

➤ **UPCOMING MEETING TOPICS**

1. Feb 1, 2018 – Joint meeting with Special Events Committee – 2018 OC Fair Planning
 - It was suggested that we invite FLCC and BOCES to participate with us at the fair
2. Mar 1, 2018 – it was suggested that a possible topic for the March meeting be Education again and invite the school district. See above note about ag forum too.

➤ **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next meeting will be February 1st at 6:00 pm and the Special Events Committee will be attending to discuss the 2018 county fair plans.