

## **Minutes of the Charlestown Agricultural Preservation Commission meeting**

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017]**

Present: Noel Rowe, Susan Barrett, Michael Merner, John Barrett

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM by President Noel Rowe.
2. A quorum was present.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting on January 17, 2017 were reviewed. Michael Merner proposed and Noel Rowe seconded that the minutes be approved. They were unanimously approved.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS:**

The Charlestown Agricultural Preservation Commission's webpage on Charlestown's website discussed. The members of the committee needed updating to reflect the present makeup of the board. The Chairman said he would send an email to the file clerk to update the website which has now been updated.

Noel Rowe passed along information about the March 30, 2017 update meeting on the FRA plan for the Old Saybrook to Kenyon railroad bypass. About sixty Charlestown citizens attended. After the discussion, John Barrett proposed we again write in support of the Charlestown Town Council's resolution of January 10, 2017 against the bypass. Noel Rowe seconded and offered to draft the letter.

Noel wrote "At the April 12, 2017 meeting of the Charlestown Agricultural Preservation Commission, all of the members oppose the proposed Federal Railway Administration NEC Old Saybrook to Kenyon bypass which would destroy several farms and open space lands, which are supposedly protected in perpetuity. Those at risk are the Amos Green Farm, the Stony Hill Farm and the Carter preserve.

We continue to support the Town Council's resolution that was passed January 10, 2017 to oppose the plan and all other town and state efforts to nullify this plan's effect on the important properties above."

5. Correspondence: the file clerk emailed the chairman that someone had applied to join the committee

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

Maro Newman has applied to be a member of the CAPC and was invited to attend this meeting. They did not attend. There was a discussion about whether all the members of the committee had to be farmers. The chairman offered to contact the file clerk to find out how the commission was established and if this was a requirement and how many members were necessary.

7. Public Comment: There was none.

8. Adjournment: Michael Merner proposed and Noel Rowe seconded adjournment. It was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 8PM.

**APPROVED July 12, 2017**