

Natural Products and Agriculture Working Group

Minutes 10 28 24 Approved 12 10 24

Location: Bell Farm

Recorder: Kathy Shaw

Staff attending: None

Attending:

Kathy Shaw, Joe Gray, David Bell, Chloe and Grant Meyers (Open Heart Farm)

Excused: Dave Griswold

Absent: Katie Boss, Chelsea Eaton, Michelle Mallegrano, Chris Carson, Pam Rousseau, Ed Michaud

Guests: Sheri Blumenthall, Stephanie Broido, Chris Piercey, Camille Parrish

Call to Order: 6:10 pm

Public Participation: None

1. **Minutes:** Approve minutes for 8 29 24, 9 26 24. Minutes reviewed but not approved due to lack of quorum.
2. **Local Foods Action Plan:** Sheri Blumenthal and Stephanie Broido reviewed the updated Food Action Plan and the launch party at DaVinci's on Nov. 13.
3. **School Department Grant supporting local foods:** Chris Peircey provided an update on efforts to introduce more local foods into Auburn, Lewiston and Auburn school systems. Chris is positive about their efforts and hopes to encourage more producers to join in. We will coordinate a meeting, possibly in January to bring producers together for a larger discussion.
4. **School Garden Project at AMS:** Pam Rousseau provided an update via Kathy. Pam is having some difficulties getting the program running. Camille suggested a contact at the Durham School, which Kathy will pass on to Pam.
5. **Farm and Forest Tour Oct 19:** Chloe, Grant and Kathy reported on the tours held at 10 locations around the City. The outcome was positive and tentative dates for 2025 are Oct 10 or 17.

New Business: None

Next meetings: Nov 26, Senior Center

Future meeting dates: Dec skip, Jan 23, Feb 27, Mar 27, Apr 24, May 22, June 26. All at Senior Center.

Adjourned: 7:15PM