

Strafford Natural Resources & Land Use Committee  
Meeting Minutes

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Date of Meeting: 04/19/2024  
Location: Strafford Town Hall

**Attendees:** Philip Lovejoy, Liz Evans, Eric Sideman, Charles Burnham, Steve Leker, and Laura Pomerleau

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- **Meeting** convened 4:15PM
- **Recap of 4/13/2023 “Straf-FARM” meet-up**
  - Four farm families were represented at the event. Self described as home-gardeners, and farmers
  - Steve updated the contact list with the emails collected on the sign-up sheet
  - Questionnaire responses discussed, noted items:
    - One of the respondents said they sell via social media, the remainder noted they mostly farm for their families own purposes
    - All respondents noted that they’d be interested in being part of a neighbor-helping-neighbor type network.
      - **In conclusion, we need more data, and will send questionnaires to individuals that were mailed flyers, from the list**
- **Discussion items**
  - **Connect to Protect** – Philip spoke with representative from Connect to Protect on 4/18, regarding resources and available grants. Grants applications are due in two weeks, and require a substantial amount of information, thus 2025 is a better goal for application – should it be necessary in the future. The program rep also mentioned that there could be valuable resources to assist and support the NRLU Committee directives.
    - **Program** has natural resource inventory (NRI) and NRI StoryMaps examples, along with funding resources to share with committee and planning board
    - **Phillip has a follow-up** call on June 10<sup>th</sup> 9AM scheduled
- **Ideas** ongoing
  - **Natural Resource Inventory (NRI)** purpose discussed and potential to partner with Connect to protect – ongoing
  - **Build community support for caring** about natural resources in Strafford
- **Action Items**
  - Phill will look at updating, rephrasing a few questions on the original questionnaire to send out via mail or electronically to collect more information, and verify interest in Straf-Farm
    - Laura will create a google-doc version of the questionnaire to distribute to registered emails, and print for mailing and/or posting at the town hall
  - Phillip will reach out to Scott Young of the Conservation Committee
- **Next meeting – Tuesday, 6/4/2024 4PM at the Town Hall**
- Meeting adjourned 5:15PM 04/19/2024