

MARSHFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING
November 1, 2016

Meeting called to order 7:32 PM at the Town Hall, Lunch Room.

Attending: Lorrie Dahlen, Sarah Garretson Lowry, Annie Massed, Carolyn Housman, Robert Dougherty

Absent: Carleton Chandler, Susan Keith, Karen Vieira, Scott Franklin

The minutes from 10/4/16 meeting were accepted as amended.
Lorrie motioned to accept the minutes as amended, Sarah seconded the motion. All eligible members present approved the minutes as amended.

Treasury Report

Balance \$4,797.70

Update on membership

Melody Quine has officially resigned from the commission. Robert Dougherty has been sworn in as a member. Scott Franklin is noted as a member of the commission.

Community Garden Update

Annie is currently looking into grants for the community garden, including a GOFUNDME page. Robert is looking into the 4-H gardening club for volunteers. Robert will contact the Lowe's in Kingston to inquire about donations for the community garden. Annie and Scott will introduce themselves to the new conservation officer when that position is filled.

Right to Farm Signage in town - update

Lorrie left a message with the DPW sign person to see if he can successfully use the electronic files we have on the signage.

Discussion regarding Town Charter meeting

Lorrie has not heard from the Town Charter Committee regarding her inquiry for the questions they have for commissions. Robert is also a historical commission member and that commission did receive the questions, he will forward the questions to us.

Discussion points included:

Recommending the zoning, planning and the Board of Selectmen contact the Agricultural Commission if there's an agricultural inquiry or complaint.

Contact the Agricultural Commission if there is a policy change of land use in the town.

A town warrant should be sent to all commissions.

Sarah to contact MAAC (Massachusetts Association of Agricultural Commissions) and Dick Ward regarding what they've seen as successful in town government.

The Agricultural Commission will meet to continue this discussion and to prepare for the Town Charter meeting on 11/14 or 11/15.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 6, 2016, at 7:30 PM.

Lorrie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 PM. Sarah seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Garretson Lowry, Secretary