

9/16/2014 Dartmouth Agricultural Commission Minutes

Members present: Sue Guiducci, Bev King, David Brownell, Vince Frary, Jim Munger, Fred Dabney, and Derek Christianson

The Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM

The Secretary's report was approved 8-0-0.

Treasurer's report: No change in this period`

Farm Issues:

-Copicut: Fred talked to Chris Chisholm of APR staff. who feels that the farm is already adequately "protected." Town Meeting will address lease/purchase options for the farm. Farm has been reconfigured to reflect majority prime soils. Sue will have Town Counsel talk to MDAR lawyers to tell them that farmland is not protected. Sue, Vince, Fred, and Bev will meet with David Cressman.

-Helfand: sue reported that DNRT wants to demolish the old house to build a new facility.

-Round the Bend Farm will be changing hands, though remaining essentially under the same management. Neighbors are upset by the proposed new building and large parking area.

Farm Bureau report: HSUS bill was narrowly tabled until next session, when a strong fight is predicted. Money for the proposed slaughter house was approved in the Economic Development bill. There was discussion about problems with the Boston Food Market and of problems with the Urban Ag initiative.

ALPC report: Fred noted that cuts in Federal and State funding for farmland preservation will mean a tightening of criteria for admission to the program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David Brownell, Secretary

Agenda for Meeting November 20. Room 314, at 6:30 PM

Agenda:

Secty's report

Treasurer's report

DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

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RECEIVED

Town Farms (Copicut ,Mary Mehri, Round the Bend, etc.)

APR/MDAR/Farm Bureau/Ag Board, etc.