

Town of Orleans  
Agricultural Advisory Council

Minutes of April 9, 2012, Meeting

12 JUN 6 9:20AM  
K. Dery, ASST.  
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm by David Light, Chairman. Present were David Light, Gretel Norgeot, Judy Scanlon, and David Slack.

In the absence of Darnell Caffoni, Clerk, the reading of the March 12 minutes was postponed until the May 14 meeting. David Light agreed write the minutes for the April 9 meeting.

The council reviewed the Orleans Comprehensive Plan as it pertains to agriculture.

The council reviewed the general laws of the Commonwealth as they pertain to agriculture, including Chapter 128; Chapter 40, Section 10; Chapter 40A; Chapter 90, Section 9; Chapter 101, Section 15; Chapter 111, Section 125A.

The council reviewed Appendix J, "Model Right-To-Farm bylaw" of A Handbook for Agriculture Commissions, published by the Massachusetts Dept. of Agricultural Resources. The model bylaw is based on Massachusetts general law and is the model for the right-to-farm bylaws that have been passed by 117 Massachusetts communities. Distributed by David Slack are "Town of Marshfield: Right to Farm" and "Living Near a Farm: A Guide to Understanding Farming in Our Community [Marshfield]."

Also distributed by David Slack is a "Right-to-Farm Notification" approved by the Duxbury town meeting, March 8, 2008. The notification informs all real estate buyers and occupants that any property within the town may be impacted by farming activities. See Handbook for Agricultural Commissions, Appendix J, Section 4, "Disclosure Notification."

The council agreed by consensus to recommend the establishment of a right-to-farm bylaw and disclosure notification in Orleans. David Light will approach the Agricultural Advisory Council's liaison with the Board of Selectmen on this matter.

The council reviewed the 3/15/12 Orleans Board of Health draft of farmers' market regulations.

The council agreed by consensus to change the monthly meeting time from 4:00pm to 3:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Light

Approved May 14, 2012  
David Light