

Agricultural Commission
MINUTES
9-1-09

Attendees: Pat Pepi, Sighle Philbin, Frank Perla, Erin Palumbo, Peg Rotti

The meeting convened at 7:35pm

The minutes from 7/14/2009 were reviewed and accepted with changes.

Mr. Gaumond sent Pat an article on a community garden. Julian DiRiveriara, a town resident, supposedly started a community garden. Pat gave the articles to Sighle who will be contacting Julian to see if the AgCom could help. Various potential locations to start a community garden were discussed. This issue was tabled for further discussion until a later date.

The Mass Ag Commission Steering Committee sent a letter requesting further opinion from the West Boylston AgCom regarding the need for a statewide AgCom. The commission responded with 'don't know' with regards for the need for a state AgCom, and stated 'all suggested purposes', ie. communication, advocacy, training, education, technical assistance, would be helpful purposes should a state AgCom be formed.

A model Right-to-Farm Bylaw was reviewed by the AgCom. Some discussion ensued on the various meaning of several sections. Overall the commission was in agreement that a Right-to-Farm Bylaw is very important to the town and will work to make getting it passed a priority. The AgCom liked the format and wording of the model Right-to-Farm Bylaw and will use it as a guide. Sighle will contact Cheryl Lekstrom regarding the next required steps to put a town Right-to-Farm Bylaw into motion. Pat will find the zoning laws.

Erin will look into getting a website for the commission.

Next meeting: Oct 6th, 7:30pm

Meeting adjourned: 8:32pm