

East Haddam Agriculture Commission
March 7 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 7:00PM Thomas, Dean

Attendance: Burak, Dean, S.MacKinnon, Marshall and Thomas
FFA: Polivka and Lutz
Citizens, N. MacKinnon, Bill Quinn and Mr. and Mrs. Polivka

Liason Reports: Scott reported that the Economic Development Commission continues to discuss the hotel to be built across the river in Tylerville and that the Open Space Committee has a referendum for Open Space purchases on Thursday March 10th.

Farm Inventory: Harvey worked with Jim Ventres and utilized a GPS printout to begin the list. Members presented their lists to Harvey for inclusion . Updated list to be available for April meeting. The next steps will be an introductory letter and questionnaire to those families that we define. We will give them the option to let us know that they are interested in our involvement. Those who are interested will be invited to a meeting to hear our charge and what our next steps will be. We will also set up a booth a Shagbark (with Fred Hunt's permission) to distribute our brochure. Harvey asked all to peruse the questionnaire he presented and feed back to him via email. Harvey also explained that our letter/brochure will be entered into the East Haddam Events publication.

Audience of Citizens: Bill Quinn asked what help will be available and who will be answering questions. Initially, Dennie B. will set up an email address where folks can enter to get answers. As we mature in our own learning we hope to be able to have numbers and resources available on a Web site that Stephanie has volunteered to create.

Bill was also concerned about the "for profit" in our description of "Agriculture". All agreed that the level of profitability should not be an issue.

Nancy MacKinnon suggested an "event" that would give us more exposure and hopefully be a vehicle for like minded folks to share ideas and questions. All agreed that we should do something in the Spring....more to follow

General Discussion: Harvey spoke about the Plan of Conservation Development that will be created by Planning and Zoning. He gave us a heads up that we will need to review some sections to be sure that they do not fly in the face of our direction.

Adjourn: 8:20PM MacKinnon, Burak