

**East Haddam Agriculture Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**April 4 2011**

**Call to Order.** Chairman Thomas 7:00PM

**Attendance:** Members Thomas, Burak, Dean, Carlson, MacKinnon, Marshall.

Liaison : Abby Polivka

Citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Polivka, Nancy and Ian MacKinnon

**Liason Reports;**

P and Z.. Harvey gave an update on proposed Brewery on Creamery Road in East Haddam.

CT Farm Bureau.. Dennie Burak reported on Ag Commission success in Massachusetts. We are mirroring their efforts and expect the same results.

**Farm Inventory..** List continues to be updated. We will have a clipboard /signup sheet at the booth on Chick Day to get folks that we may have missed. Jess Marshall will check on a link to the East Haddam web page that will allow folks to "sign up" for information. We all felt that eventually our Inventory list will become a Mailing list. Abby will distribute flyers and information at the upcoming FFA meeting as well as getting the word out in school.

**Questionnaire:** On hold for the present. Nancy MacKinnon suggested that we ask folks who attend our May Event to look at the questionnaire and edit /critique it. Peg Carlson and Peter Dean both felt that many of the questions are intrusive and unnecessary. More to follow...

**Next Steps:** We will hold a May "Meet and Greet" at the Grange Hall on an available Thursday in May. We will have an introductory letter ready for the May meeting and we will use our present Inventory List as well as posters placed around to advertise and invite interested parties. Jess will contact the Fishwrapper, the Reminder and HTNP for additional coverage. The Event will have a short program and the members will introduce themselves and be available for questions. The main focus of the Event will be to nurture dialogue among families interested in Agriculture and the rural footprint of East Haddam as well as letting folks know what resources are available to them.

**Chick Day:** We will staff a booth from 9:00AM to Noon. Peter will set up a canopy and tables and will make a banner for the table. Dennie will bring decorations and candy for giveaways. Peter and Dennie will be there for the duration and members will fill in where and when they can.

**General Discussion:** Jess presented a brochure that she put together incorporating our Mission statement as well as our first project, which is the Inventory. Peter will check on printing. The brochures will be available for Chick Day and Abby will get them out to the FFA and High School students. All agreed that Jess had done a very nice job with this effort.

Dennie spoke more about the Farm Bureau meeting and some suggestions for promoting locally grown products. We will be speaking more about those efforts in months to come.

**Adjourn 8:20PM** MacKinnon, Burke