

# **Agriculture Commission**

Monday, January 7, 2013

Town Office Annex

7 :00 PM

## **Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order 7:10 PM**

### **2. Attendance**

Present: Harvey Thomas, Scot Mackinnon, Jess Stone, Pete Dean, Linda Stuhlman, Marianne Halpin, and Jeff Savitsky. Absent: youth rep. Heather Johnson.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Stone Second: Dean Approved unanimously.

### **4. Liaison Reports**

A. FFA Student Report No report.

B. Notes from November 28 meeting with VoAg/FFA

Stone said she plans to hire student to work in her C.S.A. operation this Spring. Halpin suggested recruitment of students with interest in Agriculture from the general

student body. Stone and Halpin suggested more work with Transitions program. Focus on students actually planning a career in agriculture.

C. Other

## **5. Ongoing Projects**

### **A. Farmers' Market**

Jeff Savitsky said issues have resolved themselves. The Market Committee, with one more member, should work now. New hours 4 PM to 7 PM, from the

first week of June to the first week of October.

### **B. Center for Community Agriculture**

The initiative at the old Harris property has received a \$431,000 STEAP grant.

### **C. Status of grant applications**

The Town now has two grants for Harris, the \$20,000 Farmland Restoration Grant (fencing) and the \$431,000 STEAP grant to build the multi-purpose barn.

### **D. Website Management**

No action on Ag. Commission site but some work done on Center for Community Ag. site.

### **E. Right to Farm Ordinance**

Chairman Thomas will send us the town attorney revised version of the right to farm ordinance drafted by Mackinnon.

## **6. Future Projects**

2013 Meeting Schedule

## **7. Audience of Citizens/Guests**

No audience of citizens. But, Harvey Thomas announced that, having accomplished his leadership goals, he will resign as Chairman. Thomas continued that although

a volunteer has offered to serve as the next Chairman, the full commission should have a month to see if other volunteers come forward. Vote at February Meeting.

## **8. Adjournment**

8:35 P.M.      Motion: Mackinnon    Second: Dean