

Town of Lunenburg

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
P.O. Box 135
Lunenburg, MA 01462-0135



Jeffrey Mendoza, Chairman
Garrett Stillman, Vice-Chairman
Maureen Dupuis, Clerk
Douglas MacMillan, Member
Renee Trakimas, Member

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION **January 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Posted: Yes
Place: The Ritter Building
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present: J. Mendoza, G. Stillman, D. MacMillan, R. Trakimas, M. Dupuis.

Minutes Approval: Motion to approve by D. MacMillan, second by G. Stillman. November 19, 2015 minutes approved.

Discussion about the 2016 Lunenburg Community Farmers' Market kicked off the meeting with excitement. Vendors with Finish Breads and Blown Glass have shown an interest in the market and could be joining us this year! Additionally, musicians are already eager to reserve a date to play for us. Ag Comm supporters and citizens, Tom West of Shagbark Farm and Arthur Snow of Snowplace Farm, joined the conversation providing their perspectives both as fellow Lunenburgers and prior vendors. After some careful consideration the Commission voted to extend the Market season just to the start of June. Due to our growing season there may be less produce available in these first few weeks, vendors will be able to highlight their additional foods and value added goods such as soaps, lotions, textiles, handmade items, jams, jellies, syrups, baked goods, eggs, and more! In addition, the Commission will look into the possibility of using these weeks to partner with the Lunenburg Historical Society for Market programming.

Market hours will remain 10-1 and the location will also remain at the Ritter Building. A family friendly, event filled kick off to the 2016 Market Season is in the works with more details to come. Matthew Allison, Planning Board Liaison to the Ag Comm and LCFM supporter, provided the idea of a suggestion box at Market for customers to share their thoughts as well. Clerk M. Dupuis will continue to update the vendor application until final approval at the next meeting. Additionally, she will look into guest speakers and presenters for future Ag Comm Program Meetings.

Mr. Mendoza reported that the DPW suggested posting 8 of our 10 RTF signs, leaving 2 for replacements should that be necessary. Mr. Mendoza will provide the DPW with a list of the 8 locations we would like to see the signs placed.

The Mass. Association of Ag Comms Annual meeting will be held Saturday February 27th at the Holiday Inn, Marlborough with check in starting at 9am. Morning sessions include "a panel discussion of existing animal regulations and inspection process with respect to MDAR, HB 713 'An Act to Promote the Care and wellbeing of livestock' and the possible outcome with the HSUS Support Ballot Question and an update on the Avian Influenza. After a buffet lunch and MAAC business meeting, the afternoon presenters will discuss pesticides for beginning to experienced farmers and also present the process of genetic modification, updates in this technology, testing procedures, product safety, and innovations. Early registration is \$35 per person or \$40 at the door. To register online visit www.massagcom.org.

An informational meeting regarding the Lunenburg 4H will be held at the Lunenburg Public Library on Friday February 19, 2016 at 6pm and all are encouraged to attend.

The Lunenburg Lions have again partnered with Stillman's Dairy to host Stillman's Country Fair this summer. Vendors interested in participating should contact Marilyn Stewart Talley of the Lunenburg Turkey Hill Family Lions Club.

Announcement of the Storm Water Task Force and their efforts to minimize the negative impacts of run off was made by Matthew Allison bringing the meeting to a close.

The next meeting of the Lunenburg Agricultural Commission was scheduled for Thursday February 18, 2016 at 7pm in the Ritter Building.

Motion to adjourn was made by D. MacMillan and seconded by G. Stillman.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen C. Dupuis