

Franklin Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2019

Municipal Building 355 East Central Street

In Attendance: Members Present: *Carly Fisher, Jeff Perry, Nick Hoffman, Tim Garboski, Roger Trahan, Linda Noel, & Marian Szymanski.* Also present: *Mel Hamblen.*

1. Opening:

- A.** Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by Chairman Carly Fisher.
- B.** Roll Call: All seven members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.
- C.** Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the 2/25/2019 were unanimously approved.

2. New Business:

A. Presentation By Community Solar-

The Agricultural Commission listened to a presentation by Mike C. and Jeff D. from "Community Solar". They explained their program which could benefit farmers as well as all other MA residents.

B. Update on Regional AgCom Meeting-

Carley distributed a copy of the Minutes from the most recent Regional Agricultural Commission Meeting. She also informed the Commission that The Franklin Agricultural Commission will host the next Regional Agricultural Commission Meeting in June 2019. This will take place at 355 East Central St, Franklin at 7:00pm on the last Monday of June 2019.

3. Old Business:

- A. Update on LOE for the Franklin Agricultural Commission –** Jeff Perry created and distributed a document called, "Future Goals and Lines of Effort". The Commission has agreed to use this document to help us to define our goals and to develop our plans for 2019.

- 1. Contact With 61 Property Owners:** Tim G. distributed a copy of the letter he will send to all 61A and 61B property owners. The letter will describe The Franklin Agricultural Commission and our mission and will provide additional information that will be helpful to these residents. Suggestions were made and Jeff P. will make the proposed changes to the letter.

2. Franklin Farm Booklets: Commission members were asked to vote on their preferred version of the “Franklin Farm Booklet”. The Commission unanimously chose the less glossy version of the booklet. The two versions were created by students at the Tri-County Vocational High School.
3. Strawberry Stroll: The Franklin Agricultural Commission will distribute zucchini seeds at this event.
4. Upcoming Speaking Events: Mel Hamblin will be speaking at the following events:
 - a. Student Wellness Committee - Mel will discuss planting Vegetables with children
 - b. Norfolk Agricultural High School - Mel speak with the school about ways in which the Franklin Agricultural Commission could work with the students.
 - c. Franklin Community Gardens - Mel will with members of the franklin Rec. department to find ways that the Franklin Agricultural Commission can provide education to participants in the Community Garden project.
5. Pollinator Pastures: Members of The Franklin Agricultural Commission will be working with the Franklin DPW and the town Administrator to create “pollinator Pastures” where pollinators will find safe forage. A suggested site for the first of these areas is located on Lincoln Street near Dacey fields.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Jeff Perry and Linda Noel at 8:45pm

Minutes submitted by: Marian Szymanski