**Franklin Agricultural Commission**

**Meeting Minutes from September 27, 2021**

**Municipal Building 355 East Central Street**

**In Attendance:** Members Present**:** *Roger Trahan, Nick Capoccia, Marian Szymanski, CJ Koshivas, and Linda Noel. Mel Hamblin was also present.*

1. **Opening:**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm pm by Roger Trahan
2. Roll Call: Five members of the Franklin Agricultural Commission were present.
3. Approval of the Minutes: The Minutes from the 8/30/21 were approved with one correction: At the Franklin Harvest Festival, the children will purchase their pumpkins from local businesses and THEN they will come to the Agricultural Commission’s booth to decorate them.

A. Chapter 61- Linda has obtained the necessary information for the 2022 tax rate. We have also learned that the State of MA has a website where MA residents can calculate the savings they will enjoy if they choose to file for Chapter 61.

B. Zucchini Race- The Agricultural Commission’s “Zucchini race” was held at the Franklin Farmer’s Market on September 10th. The Commission had an information booth at this event. Over 25 residents participated in the event. In 2022 we will help local children to plant the seeds for their future zucchini race cars at the Strawberry Stroll!

C. Pollinator Pasture- The Commission has agreed to create and seed a 20’ X 6’ pollinator strip in front of the weedy area at Pollinator Pasture plot. Every year we will add more no-till, pollinator garden strips until the entire plot is filled with useful pollinator plantings.

D. Franklin 2021 Harvest Festival– The Franklin Agricultural Commission discussed plans for our booth at the annual Harvest Festival held in downtown Franklin. We created a schedule for staffing the booth.

F. The Winter Farmer’s Market- The market will occur twice a month on Saturdays from November 20th to April 9th. CJ will provide us with a flyer we can display at the Harvest Festival to help publicize the Markets.

The meeting was adjourned by Linda Noel and Nick Capoccia at 8:05pm.

Minutes submitted by: Marian Szymanski