



## TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH Meeting Minutes

### **Boxborough Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2022**

Approved on February 8, 2022

**Members Present:** Owen Neville, Chair; Bryon Clemence; Kathie Becker; John Neyland, Vice Chair

**Members Absent:** Sarah Murphy, Clerk

**Others Present:** Palmer Moore, Boxborough Sustainability Committee

The Agricultural Commission held its monthly meeting on January 18, 2022. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM via Zoom.

**Review and Approve Minutes:** Minutes from December 14, 2021 were not available.

**Public Participation:** None

**Correspondence:** Chapter 61 intent-to-sell notice for property on Sargent Road, discussed below.

**Town Report submission.** Neville presented a draft submission. The Commission discussed and approved it, as amended, by a roll call vote of 4 to 0 (moved by Becker, seconded by Clemence).

**Community events.** Neville reported that pruning fruit trees at Steele Farm had not been scheduled. The next meeting of the Steele Farm Advisory Committee is scheduled for 1/26. They are expected to discuss the event schedule and a pre-event cleanup around the trees, which the Agricultural Commission can help with.

**Zoning/solar update.** Palmer Moore of the Boxborough Sustainability Committee summarized Boxborough's solar bylaw history and the current proposal: two separate Town Meeting articles for small and medium/large solar development. He noted that LELD was not intending to allow large solar projects. Clemence noted that prohibitions on permanently protected land would include Agricultural Preservation Restrictions. The Planning Board plans to hold a hearing on January 21, but Neville wasn't sure it was posted. The Town Meeting warrant closes on February 21. Neyland noted that the Planning Board had not notified the Commission of the proposed bylaws, to be taken up at its next meeting.

**Agricultural licenses.** Neville reported on a MDAR land notice, which might engage farmers.

**Land that may become available.** Neville reported on a Chapter 61 notice for two parcels on Sargent Road. The owner has an offer of \$1.25 million, and town has 120 days to exercise its right-of-first-refusal, if the owner filed everything correctly with the town. The parcels have a combined frontage of 940 feet and could yield five ANR lots. The Commission decided to expand on its recommendation at its next meeting.

**Discuss further encouraging and sustaining efforts.** Nothing to report.

**List of documents and other exhibits.** Draft Town Report submission, slides for solar presentation.

The Commission scheduled its next meeting for February 8, 2022 at 7:30 PM, via zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM on a roll call vote of 4-0 (moved by Neyland, seconded by Clemence).

Respectfully submitted,  
Bryon Clemence, Member