

**Boxborough Agricultural Commission**

**Meeting Minutes February 9, 2021**

Approved on March 9, 2021

**Members Present:** Owen Neville, Chair; John Neyland, Vice Chair; Sarah Murphy, Clerk;  
Bryon Clemence

**Members Absent:** Kathie Becker

The Agricultural Commission held its monthly meeting on February 9, 2021. The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM on Zoom.

**Review and Approve Minutes:** The Commission approved the meeting minutes (4-0 via roll call) from January 12, 2021 (moved by Neyland and seconded by Murphy).

**Public Participation:** None

**Public Input, Emails, and Correspondence:** None

**Flerra Garden Review:** Neville met with the Conservation Commission to update them on the Flerra Garden 2020 season. He also brought to their attention that the gardeners would like a permanent fence around the garden to prevent deer and other animals from damaging their harvests. If the fence is something we want to pursue the Conservation Commission would need to hold a hearing as a permanent fence is something that is currently prohibited on the site. There has been a hold-up with the drilling for the well because Neville was told the entire project needed to be bid at one time. There was some confusion about bidding out the job, but Neville spoke with the Town Administrator who has gotten the bidding started. Neville suggested we look at Bison Wells. He spoke with them about their wells and was encouraged by their product and price (\$2,400). The total project should come in less than \$10,000 including the drilling.

**Master Plan:** To be discussed at next meeting.

**Zoning:** Planning Board held a meeting last night (2/8). There may be some zoning changes proposed to the Solar By-Law. If there are changes they would affect land owners and farmers. There is a proposed 100-foot setback requirement. Neville spoke with the Town Administrator about the boats on Georgia Barry's property. He said he would not overrule the building inspector's decision on the matter. Barry has not yet received a list of abutters for her to start the process of appealing the decision requesting her to remove the boats from her property.

**Agricultural License:** Neville will request to be put on the Conservation Commission's next meeting agenda to finalize the license.

**Discuss further encouraging and sustaining efforts:** Neville brought to the Commission's attention that Margaret Delano may be looking to change the farmer that is currently haying her property. She would like to continue to keep her hay field in production.

Neville has been attempting to help some homeowners on Middle Road to relocate their chicken coop from the within the wetland buffer zone and off their neighbor's property. At this point the homeowners are not interested in help with this matter.

***Additional Discussion/Updates:*** None

**List of Documents and Other Exhibits:** None

Next month's meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM (moved by Murphy, seconded by Neyland) 4-0 (by roll call).

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Murphy, Clerk