



## TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH Meeting Minutes

### **Boxborough Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2023** Approved on April 25, 2023

The Agricultural Commission held its monthly meeting on March 7, 2023. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM at the Boxborough Museum, 575 Middle Road, Boxborough.

**Members present:** Owen Neville, Chair; Bryon Clemence, Clerk; Margaret Delano; John Neyland (late).

**Members absent:** Kathie Becker.

**Others present:** Alec Wade, Boxborough Town Planner.

**1. Review and approve minutes:** The Commission approved the minutes of February 7, 2023, as amended, by a vote of 3 to 0 (moved by Neville, seconded by Delano) and the minutes of February 15, 2023, as amended, by a vote of 3 to 0 (moved by Neville, seconded by Delano).

**2. Public participation:** None.

**3. Correspondence.** None.

**4. Annual Town Meeting – proposed articles.** Neville reported on the Planning Board discussion he attended for the proposed tree protection bylaw, noting that the latest version had fewer "triggers." Members raised questions about the need for the bylaw, its effect on business and private property, and allowance for agricultural use. The Town Planner suggested marking it up and providing it to Planning Board member Rebecca Verner immediately. After he left, members authorized Neville, by a vote of 4 to 0, to compile comments and forward them to Verner and the Town Planner (moved by Clemence, seconded by Neyland). Neville did not see other articles of agricultural interest.

**5. Open Space and Recreation Plan ((OSRP), discussed after approving minutes).** Neville introduced Town Planner, Alec Wade, who summarized the status of the plan, comments received, and a public engagement forum to be held in April. The plan is conditionally approved, and minor changes can still be made. Comments should be submitted in advance of the forum. June 1 is the deadline to finalize the plan. He also noted the entire town is now a designated Environmental Justice population.

**6. Community events/projects.** None.

**7. 95/105 Sargent Road.** The Town Clerk and DPW Director visited the site three weeks ago, and they have not decided on a date for a site visit. Neville and Neyland will represent the Commission at the site visit. The Commission reviewed the proposed sign; Neville to provide comments to the Town Clerk. The existing conditions report remains to be done.

**List of documents and other exhibits.** Draft minutes for February 7 and February 15, 2023; Draft General Bylaw Amendment: Tree Protection Bylaw, dated 2/21/2023; email from Rebecca Verner with Revised Tree Protection Bylaw, dated 3/7/2023.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 7:30 PM, at Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 11 PM by a vote of 4 to 0 (moved by Neyland, seconded by Delano).

Respectfully submitted,  
Bryon Clemence, Clerk