

TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH Meeting Minutes

Boxborough Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes for March 8, 2022

Approved on April 12, 2022

Members Present: Owen Neville, Chair; John Neyland, Vice Chair; Bryon Clemence, Acting Clerk;

Kathie Becker.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Rita Grossman, Boxborough Conservation Trust

The Agricultural Commission held its monthly meeting on March 8, 2022. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM via Zoom.

Review and Approve Minutes: The Commission approved the minutes of February 12, 2022, as amended, by a roll call vote of 4 to 0 (moved by Clemence, seconded by Neyland).

Public Participation: See Others Present.

Correspondence: Neville noted correspondence received about updating the Open Space and Recreation Plan (from the Town Planner), input on the Planning Board public hearing and on the Sargent Road parcels (discussed below).

Vacancy. The Commission discussed who might be interested in filling its vacancy.

Community events. Neville reported that the Steele Farm Advisory Committee had not scheduled the tree pruning yet, but walked the area.

Zoning/solar energy systems/recodification. Neville and Clemence attended the Planning Board public hearing on February 16, and Neville attended it on March 7. The Planning Board had addressed some of the Agricultural Commission's concerns, but they didn't present the red-line versions of the proposed bylaw amendments, and they continued the hearing until March 28 at 7:00 PM. Clemence noted a case before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court that may be relevant. Neville to post an Agricultural Commission meeting for March 29, 2022.

95-105 Sargent Road right of first refusal recommendation. Neville reported much interest in the town acquiring these parcels. The Agricultural Commission and Conservation Commission are both interested in holding the land. Rita Grossman described the land's environmental values, fundraising efforts, the need for a conservation restriction if state funds are used, and a possible temporary transfer of the town's right of first refusal. Neville to post the Community Preservation Committee's March 7 meeting in case there is a quorum.

List of documents and other exhibits. Draft meeting minutes for February 12, 2022; slides of Sargent Road parcels. Review of Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendments.

The Commission scheduled its next meeting for March 29, 2022 at 7:30 PM, via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM by a roll call vote of 4 to 0 (moved by Neyland, seconded by Becker).

Respectfully submitted, Bryon Clemence, Members