



**Boxborough Agricultural Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2021**

Approved on September 14, 2021

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

Members Absent: None

The Agricultural Commission held its monthly meeting on August 10, 2021. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM on Zoom.

Review and Approve Minutes: The Commission approved the meeting minutes, as amended (5-0 via roll call vote) from June 8, 2021 (moved by Neville and seconded by Becker).

Commission Organization: Clemence moved to keep the current leadership for the coming fiscal year. Becker seconded the motion (Approved 5-0, via roll call). Neville will continue as chair, Neyland as vice-chair and Murphy as clerk.

Public Participation: None

Public Input, Emails, and Correspondence: None

Community Events:

Fifer's Day – The Minutemen will soon vote as to whether the event will be held this year.

FreeBee Market – The Commission has been asked what, if any, role we would like to have in the market. Discussion will be ongoing.

Harvest Festival - Will be combined with the FreeBee Markets that will be held August 21st, September 18th and October 2nd.

Community Gardens and Well: Both community gardens are doing well. The pumps at both gardens are also functioning well.

Master Plan: Clemence brought up, for discussion, three actions in the Master Plan:

- Develop community food plan – possible coordination with the organizers of the FreeBee Market and the Acton Community Pantry.
- Cultivate farm workforce development
- Incentives to support farms

Clemence suggested we add information to our webpage to help address these action items. He also noted that our webpage needs updating. Clemence will reach out to the Town Planner to discuss this.

Zoning: Planning board recently discussed the future of a Solar Bylaw. We anticipate needing to watch the process and weigh in as it continues.

Agricultural License: Neyland met with Brian Morrison to discuss his interest in the license he was pursuing. He does not have his own equipment to hay the land, and the insurance quote he received was prohibitive.

Land That May Become Available: No update.

Discuss further encouraging and sustaining efforts: No update.

Additional Discussion/Updates: None.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits: Draft meeting minutes from June 8, 2021.

Next month's meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021 at 7:30 PM via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM (moved by Murphy, seconded by Clemence).
Approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Murphy, Clerk