

Town of Medway
Agricultural Committee
Holliston Town Hall
Room 14
Holliston, MA

Minutes of Meeting

March 12, 2019

Present: Chairman Paul Atwood, Secretary Margaret Perkins, Board Members Bruce Hamblin. Need names of Franklin member and Millis member

Mr. Kilkelly from Holliston stated the purpose of the meeting was to find out what the needs of the surrounding towns Agricultural Commissions are and to bring training that's needed to educate other members ie: Bylaws, Health regulations etc. It was stated there is a working plan with Commissions across the state. Communication has been opened.

Chair Atwood called the meeting in order at 7:10PM.

Medway selectman Glen Trindade attended the meeting and was wondering the following: town concerns regarding Bylaws and asked if anyone had experience or presentation material for him to look at It was mentioned by Selectman Trindade that the Agricultural Committee does have place holder on the spring meeting agenda and would accept any information prior so he can have answers for town meeting. Mr. Kilkelly from Holliston Agricultural Commission offered to use his experience and will help in assisting with setting up a meeting with town residents. Mr. Kiklelly has contact information for Massachusetts Association of Agricultural member Laura Sapkenza-Grabski. It was said that there is a concern that the 190 unit 40B near Shaw's Supermarket in Medway has nearby Farms and residents will be able to smell the odors from them.

Selectman Trindade suggested the following towns Holliston, Millis and Norfolk meet once every 3 months to go over town pending items. The next Town meeting will be Monday May 13, 2019. Was also stated that there are bylaws in the town of Medway which pertain to Chickens.

Chairman Atwood looked into how to help current farmers not sure the number of new farmers, he is not sure the number of new farmers. Medway selectman Trindade suggested Meadow field to be hayed near back entrance of Medway High School. Its noted that its cheaper and better quality to buy hay from upstate NY or Canada currently rather than local. Members will reach out to local hay farmers to see if they can get a better cost for hay. Selectman Trindade stated the community farming group doesn't have capital reserve to store local Hay. State does a lot of low interest rates.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

A motion to accept the Agenda for the meeting of March 12, 2019 was made by Chairman Atwood and seconded by Secretary Perkins.

A motion to postpone and review February 2019 meeting minutes during March meeting and will be reviewed then. This request was made by Chairman Paul Atwood and seconded by Secretary Margaret Perkins.

Citizens comment:

N/A

Old Business

- A. Chapter 61: Chairman Atwood is working on doing maps and will help assist other towns with maps if needed. Approx. 40% of the land will be gone in less than 10 years approx. 50 acres lost. Best program for mapping is the CAD Program

New Business

- A. How do we promote farming: Holliston had an Agricultural day at each farm in town. It was suggested that a multi town event ie: community far. Members will check Government website for possible ideas or dates in the works with other local farms.
- B. Next Multi town group meeting will be held in Franklin at Town Hall with a possible June 24' 2019 date 7pm. Confirmation of all invited towns forthcoming.

New Meeting:

April 10, 2019 at 7:30PM Medway Senior Center.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Dempsey, seconded by Mr. Atwood and approved unanimously.

The board adjourned at 8:35PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Bemis

Meeting Recording Secretary