



# TOWN OF BERKLEY MASSACHUSETTS

## AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

1 NORTH MAIN STREET  
BERKLEY, MA 02779

Board Meeting Minutes:  
6:00pm Conference Room A

Agricultural Commission meeting October 24, 2024

**Members present:** George Faria, Angela Young, Ed Harmon, Harry Harmon

**Member absent:** Thomas Fernandes, Aaron Fernandes, Lisa Tetreault

**Meeting called to order** by George at 6:08pm

### **Accept Minutes of 10/10/24 meeting**

Members were provided a copy of the meeting minutes. Ed motions to accept the minutes as written, second by Harry. Angela aye, George aye, Unanimous vote.

### **Update on Soil Review**

Ed provided update on ongoing progress:

Harry had an engineer friend help with online soil program. George found folders with numbers online and searched the folders. George was able to find all towns except Berkley. Ed got information for Berkley 61 & 61A land and due to being familiar with the town and where the farm lands are was able to look at the soils for those addresses. Ed reported that there are multiple types of soil in the town. Each soil type has soil subsets in ABC categories relating to slope. Some of the soil like Chamberlain is already deemed a soil of importance. Ed was unable to pin down, however, soil types for each property just overall town. Ed is going to go to the USDA office in Taunton to talk to them and see if they have a map of soil types and not just a list. Angela asked if a land could have more than one soil type of importance. Ed mentioned that the town of Dartmouth has multiple. Angela asked if there was a cap to the amount you could have. This answer was unknown. Ed is to continue on his journey of finding soils of importance and will update his progress at next meeting. George will do some more investigation as well.

### **Mission Statement edits for final proposal**

Harry presented a draft of a mission statement for the town. All parties present agreed it was well written and very easy to read highlighting the points of what the commission is for. Suggestion to highlight or enhance the key words in the write up was given and discussed by all agreeing it would be a good visual point for the page. Harry will make the edits. A copy will be sent to those that were not at the meeting and a vote on a final draft will take place at next scheduled meeting.

### **Public Input**

Discussion had regarding last meetings suggestion of tractors and community events. Harry spoke with his friend Tyler who was unaware of a contact for the local tractors that came to the Aggie. Angela to follow up with her contact.

Harry ran into a colleague who works in sustainable agriculture at Stonehill college. Harry reported he is interested in helping out where he can and would be a good resource for future questions.

Having no further discussion, Ed made a motion to adjourn at 6:31pm, Harry 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

Next meeting will be November 7, 2024 at 6:00pm in the Conference room A.

**Minutes by: Angela Young**

*Angela Young RN*