



TOWN OF BERKLEY MASSACHUSETTS

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

1 NORTH MAIN STREET
BERKLEY, MA 02779

Board Meeting Minutes:
6:00pm Assessor's office

Agricultural Commission meeting January 9, 2024

Members present: George Faria, Angela Young, Ed Harmon, Harry Harmon, Lisa Tetreault, Aaron Fernandes
Members absent: Thomas Fernandes

Meeting called to order by George at 6:13 pm

Accept Minutes of 12/19/24 meeting

Members were provided a copy of the meeting minutes via email prior to the meeting. Ed motions to accept the minutes as written, second by Lisa. All in favor. None opposed

Update on Soil Review

Lisa sent an email again from her home email regarding the map overlay. She has not gotten an answer. She is going to send an email via her board of assessors email address in hopes it'll prompt an answer from a more official email handle.

Funding/Account type (non-profit, grants etc.)

George spoke to a lawyer who will get us the information on how to proceed with non-profit status. George had to provide in writing what he was requesting. He asked the lawyer to email him a copy. There will need to be a committee such as the "friends of Ag comm" who handle the money. Ed and Harry spoke about someone they knew who was interested in being on the friends committee. As far as George is aware you need at least a Chair and a treasurer on the "friends" board.

Right to farm signs, T-shirts, plaque etc.

Amy King was told she has the account. She was questioning if the committee wanted a design on the fronts as well as the back of the T-shirts. George provided the group some options via photos he was sent as examples via email. Aaron asked what was going on the back of the shirts. George said the back will be what the RTF sign looks like. All in agreement the logo on the front should be the example provided that states Berkley RTF with the tractor photo. We currently have two donations sent to Amy King. One to cover a dozen T-shirts of each standard adult size and the other for signs and memorial plaque. H&H Farm made one donation and Joey and Rappy memorial fund made the second donation.

Lisa made a motion to order one dozen yellow t-shirts in sizes S-XL with green back and front logo as mentioned above. Ed second. All in favor, none opposed.

Memorial plaques were discussed. Ed asked what the plaque was going to be for. Lisa said it would be a minimum donation in memory of plaque. Money would go to an agricultural purpose in town. We will ask the town admin if it can be displayed in the town hall.

Lisa stated it should state, "Town of Berkley Right to Farm Community Est 2024 In Loving Memory Of" and then a list of plates with the names from donors/remembered loved ones. Angela made a motion that the plaque should state the proposed wording above. Lisa second. All in favor, none opposed.

Sizing of signs was discussed as was how many name plates could fit. Cost would depend on size and amount of plates. Ed went to the hallway as there are some plaques displayed there. The plaques were 13x15". Angela provided an example on her phone that was about the same size with 30 name plates. Decision on size and amount will be dependent on the price. George will ask Amy for some examples with prices. Once this information is provided a better choice can be made. The price of the chosen plaque will determine how many RTF signs can be purchased with the \$ left.

FB page update

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Angela has set up a Facebook group for the Ag committee. Aaron and Harry are also admins with privileges to manage the page. It is the very beginning of the page so all parties will continue to work on it making improvements etc.

Public Input – None

Lisa motioned to end the meeting at 6:49pm. Harry second. All in favor, none opposed. Next meeting to be 1.23.25 in the assessor's office.

Minutes by: Angela Young

Angela Young RN