

TOWN OF BERKLEY MASSACHUSETTS

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

1 NORTH MAIN STREET BERKLEY, MA 02779

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

Agricultural Commission meeting of May 22, 2025

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

Meeting called to order by George at 6:06pm

Accept Minutes: Ed makes a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting on May 8th, Harry seconds the motion; Aaron abstain. All in favor. None opposed.

Discuss Non-Profit EIN: EIN number has been obtained per George. Waiting on tax exempt status. George went to the bank with Mark and Bryan and deposited George's plaque donation money into our open account at Baycoast Bank. 2 signatures are required on each check. Harry asked if an accountant was needed as there is lots of paperwork. George will ask the lawyer. George stated the biggest thing is taking correct notes and reporting such. Only people that can spend the money is the Ag Comm. A spreadsheet update is all that is needed when things move into or out of the account. There is \$750 in the account at present.

Memorial Plaque: Angela will make an order form.

George would like to keep families together when placed on the plaque.

Lisa went to the Board of Selectmen meeting and presented the plaque to the board for approval to hang in the town hall. Lisa printed some photos of the plaque and it was received well. Lisa also shared the goings on of the Ag Comm and got a thumbs up. Ag Comm can hang the plaque wherever we see fit. A trip to the collector's office location will be taken after meeting as there is a small wall near this office that is well traveled and not busy with other hangings.

RTF signs: Signs are ready to hang. George would like to get special locking nuts so they are not easy to unscrew and stolen. George spoke to Mr. Rose and got approval to hang ourselves. George would like to get together on a weekend and hang sings. Signs cannot affix to a stop sign and would like to avoid telephone poles and trees. No littering signs would be best.

Facebook ideas/update: Discussion about venmo and paypal links had in relation to placing on the page. Angela stated accounts for each need to be made with the bank info. Angela is happy to work with Bryan in doing this if needed. George will talk with Bryan and Harry shared Angela's number with him. These links can be posted on the page and we can sell T-shirts as soon as the Non-profit is set. Angela discussed wanting to get more interaction on the page and suggested June be farm animal month. Favorite animal or farm mascot. All agreed. Angela will pin a post and request comments of members favorite farm animal.

Public input: Time for committee reorganization has come. Harry, Aaron and Ed want to be reappointed as their term will be up. They will be reappointed for a 3 year term. Vote at next meeting.

Fundraising ideas such as a tractor show were discussed. Tractor pull was suggested. It could be open to all small tractors including garden tractors and have wt classes. Just something for fun. Ed will find out more. Insurance/liability was asked. Ed will investigate further. Lisa asked if the eagle club allows outsiders to use their facility. George said yes for town things. He will ask. They have liability. Beagle club has large venue with a kitchen and bathrooms. There is also a pavilion. More details will be obtained and discussion furthered at next meeting.

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Adjourn: Having no further discussion, Lisa made a motion to adjourn at 6:38pm, Ed 2nd.

Angela Juny
Minutes by Angela Young