



TOWN OF BERKLEY MASSACHUSETTS

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

1 NORTH MAIN STREET
BERKLEY, MA 02779

Board Meeting Minutes:
6:15pm Assessor's office

Agricultural Commission meeting of January 8, 2026

Members present: Lisa Tetreault, Angela Young, Harry Harmon, Ed Harmon, Mike Moreau, Aaron Fernandes and Bryan from Friends. Absent: George Faria

Meeting called to order by Lisa at 6:15pm

Accept Minutes: Ed makes a motion to accept the meeting minutes as written for 11/13/25. Harry second. Aaron abstain. All in favor, none opposed.

Financial Status/update: Bryan stated that PayPal is good to go and we've received one donation already. Currently there is \$1930.46 in the bank. \$20 in PayPal. Discussion was had to get a PP link for the Facebook page. Eventually we'd like to put the T's and signs up for purchase as well. Bryan can create custom links for these. Angela will work on a spreadsheet with an order form to do this. Angela will work with Bryan regarding PP.

Facebook: Angela will work on a donation link for PP and talk about winter crops and winter survival.

Fundraising-

Ed is looking into a tractor show. Ed has some more work to do/look into prior to planning on but he is gathering his details. He's looking towards a possible show in summer.

Angela mentioned joining in on the craft fair on the common during the fall for our tractor show and or fall festival that Ed had mentioned. Ed had mentioned sending seeds to the schools to gain participation and interest in the event. Angela will email Melissa Ryan.

Meat raffle – Harry did research into this and stated we'd need to set a budget so he knows better what he can offer for the raffle. Angela mentioned that there was a new law/stipulation passed on selling raffle tickets for a non-profit but was unaware what it was. Lisa was aware as well and was going to find out for next meeting. It was decided that \$250 would be a reasonable amount. Harry will compile details and possible vote at next meeting dependent on the raffle stipulation.

Mike mentioned that a raffle might be nice for the fall at the farmers markets. We could sell raffle tickets at each event to be drawn at the last event. We'd have to figure out what to raffle but it is a good way to draw folks in.

Scholarship: What is the fundraising for? Mike had mentioned a sponsorship idea via email. Would it be a need base or a merit base? Aaron mentioned the pros and cons of both need vs merit. Gift vs achievement. Lisa mentioned fund for 61A purchase and preservation down the line. Ed discussed applications for scholarships and how they are read and done non-biased. Discussion had on asking financial information to best decided need. Further discussion to be had.

Public Input: Lisa mentioned that we had sold 2 t-shirts and gotten a \$5 donation. Money will be given to Bryan and added to the funds. Bryan brought up taxes and was asking what the other "Friends" groups do for such a group. Lisa will reach out and get some info to Bryan. Bryan also mentioned it might be of best interest to open a high yield savings account. He mentioned that Baycoast could assist. It would provide a better interest to our savings and a better financial decision. Bryan will gather info. We would have to decide a threshold of which we will do at next meeting.

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What are the donations towards. How can we word it so the public knows what their money is going towards? Currently we will go with the "Agricultural based scholarships, preservation of farm land and farmer support"

Ed brought up the Memorial Day parade and how they are always looking for participants. Mike mentioned that Ed could drive his tractor. Talks should be had about participation from the group as it gets closer Bryan also mentioned, regarding fundraisers, the fundraising calendars. Further discussion to be had.

Adjourn: Having no further discussion, Ed made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Minutes by Angela Young