

Town of Brookfield, MA  
Agricultural Commission  
Minutes of Meeting  
February 15, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman, Clarence Snyder.

Commission members present: James Dolan, Ron Starcher, Barbara Haberlin,  
Clarence Snyder, Paul Benjamin

Alternate members present: Don Grimes, Steve Novak, Don Haberlin

Commissioners/Alternates not present: Mark Ledoux

Others present: Robert R. Barnes, Ken Cleveland, Rudy Heller, Sonya Ciavola, David  
Holcroft, and Jennifer Grybowski – press

**Minutes** of the January 18, 2012 meeting were reviewed. There was a motion and a second to accept the minutes as presented. After no further discussion the motion carried. Clarence will send minutes and the agenda for the next meeting to Mike Seery for posting.

**Right-to-Farm:** We will take this opportunity to review and explain the Right to Farm By-Law. This meeting is being taped and information discussed will also be distributed to Town Board members. Rudy posed a question regarding Section 1 and being “inconsistent “under Town CH 40A Section 3, “...zoning restrictions and exacting permits...”. The Right to Farm Bylaw will help to clarify this inconsistency. The project came about due to issues regarding forestry and open space. There has been a lot lost due to development. Can Brookfield effectively and economically support open spaces by farming? From the Master Plan questionnaire, it was clear that residents would like to maintain Brookfield’s original character as a farming community. Clarence will update the language and edit the document for the Town Board members not present and for further feedback.

**Farmers Markets:** A Brookfield Citizen article will be prepared for the May issue stating the June start of our Farmer’s Markets including our brochures with updated information.

**Discussion** followed regarding the upcoming Annual Meeting of Massachusetts Agriculture Commission to be held in Sturbridge on February 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.  
**Note for agenda** at the March meeting: public service announcements regarding the Agriculture Commission and related interviews with members, farm photos, etc.

With no other business or discussion, the next meeting was scheduled for March 21, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. It was motioned and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Haberlin