

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Town of Dudley, MA

Est. 2019



Dudley Agricultural Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2022

Dudley Municipal Complex | 7:00pm

In attendance:

Linda Lorkiewicz - Chairwoman

Lanette Lepper – Commission Member

Katie Rozenas-Hanson - Secretary

Meeting began at 7:04 pm with a call to order by Chairwoman Linda Lorkiewicz. Group stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reviewed minutes from May 2022 meeting, Linda made a motion to approve the minutes and Lanette seconded the motion. Linda and Lanette voted in favor and Katie abstained.

Old Business:

Strawberry Festival—There isn't an update from Grange for the festival. Katie was able to get some grow kits for kids to plant bean seeds and sunflower seed. Katie will set up with Victor and Linda will join later. We will have handouts and some things to giveaways. Grange will supply the table. The Grange is looking for volunteers to hull strawberries and help sell pre-sale tickets the weekend before the festival.

Our Budget Request: (Article 13: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,500.00) for the purchase of signs, banners, and associated materials to be used for public events, or take any other action relative thereto.) Our budget request was approved at town meeting. Linda will begin looking at banners. We are looking for quotes for the banner. So far, one quote was \$75 for a 3ft x 6ft sign and \$125 for a 8ft x 4 ft. The graphic would include our name and agricultural imagery.

Linda has drafted a letter to the Selectmen recommending that the town departments notify landowners/farmers about any work they are doing near their land and for us to be included or consulted in agricultural issues. The Board will review and send edits back to Linda.

Linda got an inquiry regarding 70 to 80 acres of land that is available for lease for haying this year. If any farmers are interested in farming this land, please contact Linda.

We got a lot of positive feedback on the Dudley Grows Together event. Everyone is in favor of making it an annual event.

New Business:

Apple Festival, October 1st (11am-4pm)-Lanette got an newsletter email from the Master Gardeners about how you can request Master Gardeners to come and do soil testing on-site. Linda will get pumpkins and we will do decorating. Katie will reach out to the Worcester County Beekeepers Association to see if we can get an observational hive and maybe have someone come out for a few hours to answer questions.

Spotted Lanternfly—we will post information on our website as the spotted lanternfly is popping up throughout the state. We urge residents to be vigilant in checking the trees on their property so this invasive pest doesn't get out of control.

Linda is looking for photos to use for the website so if anyone has any, please send them to Linda.

Looking forward to our scheduled meetings: July 12th, August 2nd, September 13th

Lanette made a motion to adjourn our meeting at 7:41pm and Katie seconded the motion. All in favor and motion passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Rozenas-Hanson
Secretary