

Town of Lunenburg

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

P.O. Box 135
Lunenburg, MA 01462-0135



Commission Members:

Jennifer Duffy, Chair
Maryrae Holman, Vice-Chair
Jackie Chabot, Clerk
Kathy Dugan, Member
Ryan Stober, Member
Kira McClellan, Alternate
Vacancy, Alternate

NOTICE OF MEETING

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

6:30PM Tuesday, February 24, 2025

Lunenburg Public Library, Sudolnik Conference Room
1023 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg

MEETING MINUTES

Agricultural Commission Members and Attendance

Function	Name	Attendant
Chair	Jennifer Duffy	✓
Vice-Chair	Maryrae Holman	
Clerk	Jackie Chabot	✓
Member	Kathy Dugan	✓
Member	Ryan Stober	✓
Alternate	Kira McClellan	✓
Alternate	Vacant	
Public	Dave Passios	✓

Agenda:

No.	Topic	Notes
1	Call to Order	Meeting Commencement Time: 6:41 pm
2	Public Comment	Dave Passios commented on the property at 100 Townsend Harbor Rd. Discussion about importance of this property to maintain farmland.
3	Announcements	None.
4	Review/Approve Minutes	None.
5	New Business:	
	USDA Update	None.
	MDAR Update	Farmers Dinner: Planning for the Future of Your Farm Tues, April 1 @ 6:00 - 8:00PM Berlin 1870 Town Function Hall (12 Woodward Avenue, Berlin, MA 01503)

		Farmland Partnership Program Webinars Tuesday, March 11th from 1-2:30pm and Monday, March 31st from 10-11:30am
	Community Garden	None.
	Soils of Local importance	Ryan made a motion to approve the document. Kathy seconded. Commission unanimously approved.
6	Current Business:	
	Goals – Review 2024, Draft 2025	Continued to draft 2025 goals
	MVP Action Grant	Jen attended meeting on February 3rd with other town interested in grant. Next steps to come. Discussion on participation.
	Spring Event	No interest received from local farms wanting to participate.
	100 Townsend Harbor Rd	<p>Select Board has not yet discussed this property or asked committees for their recommendation. Agricultural Commission is not on the list of boards typically asked for a recommendation. Bring awareness to the ROFR to the town population.</p> <p>Jackie made a motion to state the recommendation of the Agricultural Commission is for the town of Lunenburg to preserve the property at 100 Townsend Harbor Road citing the reasons stated below. Kathy seconded. Commission unanimously approved.</p> <p>The town has the opportunity to preserve the agricultural aesthetic and open space in this Chapter 61a property we should take the opportunity considering other properties are coming up as private sale (no ROFR). Currently, several large properties in town are already seeing development such as the stone farm, funeral home, and patten's farm (already townhouses).</p> <p>This property has potential for multiple passive recreation and a community garden which would serve the entire community.</p> <p>Surveys and general comments in town consistently express interest to maintain the farming community feeling. The town needs to step up to take advantage of these opportunities. Once farms and open space are subdivided and sold, there is not an opportunity to get them back.</p>
	Lunenburg Farmers' Market	<p>Reviewed applications for the following vendors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ena's Handmade Wooly Friends Fragments Fine Art Jen's Hens and Garden Dirty Little Soaps Pony Shack Cider Wild Brook Honey Lunenburg Public Library Lunenburg Historical Society

		<p>Kathy makes a motion to approve all vendors aside from Fragments Fine Art for the Farmers' Market. Noting Fragments Fine Art is not within the distance required for the farmers' market. Ryan seconded. Commission unanimously approved.</p> <p>Jackie to draft signs for farmers' market. Jen to find quote.</p>
	Membership	None.
	Agricultural Commission Facebook Page	Continue to post about farmers' market and USDA/MDAR updates
	Agricultural Commission Mailing List	
7	Committee Reports	None
8	Farming Issues	None
9	Upcoming Meetings/Events Schedule	
	6:30 pm March 24, 2025	Lunenburg Public Library, Sudolnik Conference Room
	7:00 pm April 14, 2025	Lunenburg Public Library, Wallace Community Room
	6:30 pm May 19, 2025	Lunenburg Public Library, Sudolnik Conference Room
	7:00 pm June 9, 2025	Lunenburg Public Library, Wallace Community Room
10	Public Comment	None.
11	Adjourn	Meeting Adjournment Time: Kathy made a motion to adjourn; Ryan seconds. Commission unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm