

Meeting Notes from the Charlemont Agriculture Commission

November 14, 2016 at 5PM at Charlemont Town Hall

Attending: Erwin Reynolds, Sr., Doug Dean, John Hoffman, Cheryl Handsaker. Missing: Eric Dean.

- Minutes from October 17th were unanimously approved.
- Update on the Right to Farm signage
 - Erwin reported that Hawlemont is looking at graphics for the Rt 2 signs. The signs for Rt. 2 will also include the words “Home of Hawlemont School” without making specific mention of the H.A.Y. program.
 - Erwin suggested that we reach out to the folks at MassHighway for confirmation on the allowable sizes of the sign.
 - Cheryl is following up with Heath and Row regarding the use of the existing poles for the signs.
- Review of the Tri-town food survey
 - Members reviewed the survey and have a couple of updates we would like to suggest. John will reach out to Sean Niell for next actions.
 - John will connect to see if there is a paper copy of the survey for folks who are not comfortable with an online format.
 - We discussed sending a notice about the survey home with students.
 - Cheryl will publish the survey on the Charlemont Web Site.
 - We brainstormed local food producers (which we defined as anyone that raises food for sale to the public).
 - “Avery Brook Rd. people”
 - H.A.Y. program
 - Lori Hicks
 - Turner (Zoar Rd.)
 - Alice Hicks
 - Doug & Julia White
 - Erwin Reynolds
 - Doug Dean
 - John Hoffman
 - Clare Pearson
 - Bill and Norma Coli
 - Warfield Farm
 - Additional names should be sent to John Hoffman.
 - John will reach out to Erwin Reynolds, Jr, in his role as Barn Inspector. He likely knows all Charlemont folks raising meat animals.
- John will follow up with Eric regarding the status of his action items from the October meeting.
- Next meeting is set for December 13th at 6PM at the Charlemont Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Handsaker