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MATTAPOISETT AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION AGENDA

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

6 p.m. – Town Administrator's Office

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tuesday, April 5, 2016

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update Agricultural Commission brochure & website
(pictures needed)!!!!
 2. Car stickers and sales – Farmer's Markets – new 3 " ones are availabl
 3. House Plumbing Bill letter of support sent
 4. Farm stands and Chapter Land
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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Round Table Discussion – see attached agenda
2. Farm Stand Application approval

ADJOURN

Mattapoisett Agricultural Committee
May 3, 2016

Ag Round Table
Agenda

- 1) Meet and greet regional AgCom members
- 2) Discuss formation of a South Coast Regional Ag Council
 - a. See attached proposal
- 3) Review regional Ag assets
 - a. Farm acreage
 - b. Types of farming in area
 - c. Regional municipalities who do not have AgComm's
- 4) Discuss possible synergies
 - a. Purchasing power
 - i. Example; If we have 25 farms all selling eggs can we bulk purchase egg cartons for less?
 - b. Political footprint
 - i. When commenting on local or state legislation the more farmland we have behind our comments the louder it is heard
 - ii. Acknowledge there are state wide organizations that help farmland but I'm thinking of thinking of issues that might impact us locally
 - c. Farmland Advocate
 - i. To not only know what types of farming are in our town but also in our region so that we can support and advocate where/when needed to
 - ii. The more eyes and ears involved the less likely something will slip by unnoticed
- 5) Ag Council Meetings
 - a. Semi-Annual, quarterly or as needed

Proposal

South Coast Regional Ag Council

Objective: to support farming in the 4 south coast municipalities (Acushnet, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett and Rochester), and promote agriculture-friendly land use and municipal policies.

Goals: will include those of municipal commissions, and the following:

- Serving as an information and education conduit between farmer municipal boards and commissions, elected officials, nonprofit agencies, and civic organizations
- Providing guidance and review of municipal land use regulations related to agriculture
 - Omnibus Ag Bill
 - Ag Estate Tax
 - Ag Plumbing Code
 - AgCom Ability to hold land
- Providing guidance and information regarding agriculturally related tax programs and policies
 - Chapterland Values
- Assisting with conflict resolution of agriculturally related issues
- Identifying economic opportunities for towns and farmers



FARM STAND ADVERTISING

Name of Vendor/Farm: _____

Owner/Operator: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Hours of operation: _____

What does your farm stand have to offer? List all of the products
sold from your farm: _____

Are you certified organic? Yes No

CNG (certified naturally grown)

I hereby give my permission to publicize the above information:

Signature:

Date: _____

Farm Stand Advertising

Name of Vendor/Farm: _____

Owner/ Operator: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Hours of Operation: _____

What does your farm stand have to offer? List all of the products sold from your farm.

Are you certified organic? Yes No

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