

January 12, 2007

Minutes of Agricultural Commission January 11, 2007

Members present Steve Moulton, Sally Smith, George Moore, Ned O'Neil and John Smigelski.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

Ned handed out agenda that was reviewed and agreed on by all members.

Agenda as follows

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll call**
- 3. Elections**
- 4. Open issues**
 - a) Work Plan – Getting Right To Farm Bylaw passed**
 - b) Funding do we need it?**
 - c) Discussion of relationship with Town employees and other groups**
- 5. Other business**
- 6. Adjourn**

Discussion of Mission Statement, motion made and seconded to adopt modified section six of Right to Farm Bylaw as mission statement. Vote was unanimous.

Mission Statement

An agricultural commission shall be established to address and represent agricultural issues and interests in the Town of Groton. The duties and responsibilities of the commission shall include but not be limited to: advising Board of Selectman, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Earth Removal Committee, and other local organizations on projects and activities, including acquisition and other transaction involving agricultural lands in the Town Of Gorton; engaging in projects and activities to promote the business of farming activities and traditions and farmland protection, including programs and community events and reports on projects and activities on an annual basis within the town report.

Steve said he would talk to Jeff Ritter about the posting of meeting for right to farm bylaw.

Vote was taken on the election of officers; motion was made and seconded to nominate Ned O'Neil as chairman, vote unanimous. Motion was made and seconded to nominate Steve Moulton as Vice Chairman, vote unanimous. Motion was made and seconded to nominate George Moore as Secretary, vote was unanimous.

Discussion followed on the best way to educate the town people on what The Right to Farm Bylaw was all about. What groups to talk too get support for this Bylaw? We then divided these groups and assigned a number of groups to each member to contact and talk to.

**Steve Moulton – Rotary Club, Women's Club, Lion's Club
Sally Smith – Grange, Garden Club,
George Moore – NRWA, Men's Club
John Smigelski – Groton Land Foundation and Trust
Ned O'Neil – Groton Businessmen's Association**

Steve said he would check with Doris Chojnowski about being able to do copying and possibly a flyer with the Electric Light Billing.

**Motion was made and seconded to adjourn vote was unanimous.
Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.**