

Shelburne Agricultural Commission — Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM

John Herron, Chair, Beth Manning, Carolyn Wheeler, Kim Stevens, Prudy Wholey, Secretary

Read and accepted minutes from last meeting.

We discussed having a promotional sticker made that farmers could put on some of their produce (not meat since that must be approved by the USDA). Or, we may have a larger placard that could be for display at farmers' markets and other places where our goods are for sale. We need to look into the art work end of this and also, the costs involved.

We need to update the Ag Com. portion of the town of Shelburne web site. AS it is now, nothing has been put on there since 2007 or 08. Prudy will contact Terri Mosher concerning that, and see if we can have a contact email on the Ag com. site so people can contact us.

We talked about the SFBA to consider whether that would be a suitable area for promotion of Agricultural businesses. We could have some pamphlets made that feature town folks who have ag. items for sale.

Again, what can the Ag. Com. do for the town farmers? An open meeting is being considered to meet and ask questions. We are thinking about a time in the spring or in good weather. We have a partial list of known farmers and are thinking of ways to let them know about us.

To let people know we are available to work on issues concerning farmers, we think it might be good to have an interview with somebody from the Greenfield Recorder and/or The Shelburne Falls Independent.

Our homework for the next meeting is for everyone to come up with a paragraph which could be used to promote Shelburne Grown/Produced Agriculture. A list of known businesses and producers should be made available to customers and potential customers.

Part of our "job" can be to let people know about other farm related organizations (i.e. Mass. Maple).

Beth Manning mentioned the article in the Recorder about the Food Hub at the former Lunt Silversmith building.

Kim will keep us up-to-date on the state Ag. Com. news and some issues concerning assessments on farm related buildings.

The next meeting is on Feb. 22, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence Wholey