

Shelburne Agricultural Commission

December 14, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Present: Carolyn Wheeler, Becky Ashenden, Courtney Basil, Sara Davis, Ernie Kelley, Prudy Wholey. Absent: Jonathan Graves

1. Committee Chair, Carolyn Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7 PM.
2. Becky Ashenden moved to approve the May 4, 2023 meeting minutes as corrected. Ernie Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. The treasury has \$1,593.86 in a non-interest-bearing account.
4. Farmland of Local Importance has been signed by Norm Davenport and is now active in Shelburne. Farmland of Local Importance recognizes land that is agriculturally significant that may not be included in other metrics and may allow more land owners to qualify for programs such as APR or certain funding opportunities.
5. The committee reviewed agricultural events that took place in Shelburne over the past year, including Wheelview Farm's pasture walk, Fabric of Life's Barnfest, and a recap of the challenging growing season.
6. The committee reviewed ideas for exposing young people to agriculture, including organizing farm and garden tours. Ideas for outreach included 4-H, primary school students, local tech schools, or UMass. A planning tour of committee member's farms has been tentatively scheduled for early May.
7. Jim Bragdon is the Shelburne Barn Inspector and is responsible for maintaining a listing of all properties with livestock and poultry in town, performing barn inspections, and responding to agricultural complaints. The committee worked on gathering names of livestock and poultry owners in town to assist the Barn Inspector in carrying out his responsibilities.
8. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 7PM at the Shelburne Fire Station.
9. There being no further business, Ernie Kelley moved to adjourn the meeting. Becky Ashenden seconded the motion. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Davis, Secretary