

Harvard Agricultural Advisory Commission (HAAC)

Town of Harvard, MA

Minutes of Meeting June 29, 2022
Approved February 1, 2023

Present: Kerri Green - Chair, Chrstiane Turnheim, Matt Varrell, Rob Traver

Green called meeting to order 7:11pm

Finalize & Approve Chapter 61A Letter/Google Form

Turnheim had two additional suggestions for the google form

1. Under the contact section there is a question asking if you knew about Harvard Grown before this questionnaire and she pointed out that the intro doesn't mention anything about Harvard Grown, and that maybe we should correct this.
2. Add a question to ask how farms are marketing their products.

Members discussed the two suggestions, followed by making amendments to the letter and the google form. Traver made a motion to approve the letter. Turnheim seconded. All were in favor.

Approve Visi-Flash invoice for new Harvard Grown & Right to Farm Signs

Varrell made a motion to approve the invoice for the amount to \$1620.00 to Visi-Flash. Traver seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion on Possible Gathering in October or November

Members were interested in hosting another Ag. Gathering like we did in the late fall of 2019. Traver made a point that he may be moving by fall and if members felt there was enough bandwidth if there are less members on the Commission. Turnheim suggested it would be a good opportunity to try and see if anyone was interested in volunteering on the Commission. Varrell suggested an informal end of farm season pot-luck. Traver asked if there should be an agenda. Varrell advocated for it to have a more social tone vs political due to the timing of the upcoming town meeting. Post busy fall season was ideal. Members looked at a calendar and settled on a tentative date of November 2, 2022 6:30-8:00; but would discuss towards the end of summer early fall.

HCIC Climate Action Plan

Turnheim explained that she had made efforts to have someone from HCIC join the meeting tonight to discuss/review the draft Climate Action Plan but didn't hear from anyone, and no one

joined the meeting. She would keep the commission posted as what the next steps would be for Ag. when she gets that information.

Turnheim mentioned there was an idea of the HCIC to host a one time farmers market to promote/showcase agricultural products and farms in Harvard. End of September or October was when they were thinking. Varrell said he was already booking up markets for the fall and that he would be interested depending on the date. Turnheim said she keep the Commission posted as to more info when it was available.

Review/Approve Minutes

No minutes were available to approve.

Member & Chair Updates

Harvard Grown Submissions for Posting

Green reminded members to send in submissions to her for harvardgrown.org

Next Meeting Determination

Green mentioned the idea of skipping July as the Commission has done in the past, and convening in August. The next meeting would be August 31, 2022. Unless anything pressing were to come up that required the Commission's attention.

Adjourn

Varrell made a motion to adjourn. Traver second. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

Submitted by K. Green