

Harvard Agricultural Advisory Commission (HAAC)

Town of Harvard, MA

Minutes of Meeting 29 April 2020
Approved June 17, 2020

Green called the meeting to order via Zoom at 7:33pm

In attendance by roll call: Chair - Kerri Green, Christiane Turnheim, Rob Duzan, Rob Traver, Matt Varrell

Guest Speakers: Laura Sapienza Grabski - President of MA Agricultural Commissions Association, Maria Ramon - WPI Student, Yvone Niebuhr - WPI Student

Laura Sapienza Grabski - President of MA Agricultural Commissions Association

- Brief History of how the MA Agricultural Commissions Association was formed
- Shared different initiatives and bills at the state level for us to consider.
 - MGL ch 40 sec. 8L
 - Senate Bill #2446 - that allows Ag. Commissions to oversee parcels of town land
- Shared different initiatives ideas at the Commission level
 - Increase Visibility within the Community
 - Education/Information
 - Series on Different Techniques
 - Forest Management

WPI Student Group

- Focus of the WPI Student's project is to update the inventory for the GIS system
- Created a Questionnaire/Survey and have spoken to members of the Ag. Comm.
 - Challenging during the Pandemic to do in person conversation
 - Seeking help with contact info for folks outside of the Ag. Comm as well as other non-commercial Agricultural property owners
 - Currently have reached out to 30 on the 61/61A chapter list. Completed 3. Set up future interview times with others.
 - WPI Students will send an email with a list of people they are seeking contact info for

Chair Updates:

- Member Re-Appointments
- Covid-19 Guidance for Farms, Farm Stands & Farmers Markets

Member Updates:

- Rob Duzan - Open Space Committee
 - Last meeting February 28, 2020 - lands coming out of chapter
 - next Meeting is May 7, 2020
 - Duzan thinks it's really important to determine what everyone's roles are on the Open Space Committee. Members agreed.

- Christiane Turnheim - Community Resilience Working Group (CRWG)
 - Signed a contract with Kim Lundgren Associates (KLA) on April 28, 2020
 - \$77k project scope with a focus on Agriculture. At the moment everything needs to be completed by July. Seeking an extension with the State due to Covid.
 - Turnheim is concerned that the actual "Branding Deliverables" are vague.
 - Turnheim wants to be clear with KLA as to what the Commission wants in terms of Branding. (Logo, Brochure highlighting Harvard Farms). Right now the contract only states Logo, Website & "Messaging Materials" which isn't completely defined as to what will be delivered in "Messaging Materials"
 - Laura Sapienza Grabski suggested looking at the Map/Brochure for North Hampton as a great example
 - There will have to be separate meetings with KLA re: marketing materials and stakeholder outreach.

Motion to adjourn, all in favor.

Meeting Adjourned 9:30pm

Minutes Submitted: Kerri Green