

**Town of Medway
Agricultural Committee
Medway Public Library, Historical Room
26 High Street, Medway MA 02053**

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 17, 2017

Present: Chairman Paul Atwood; Board Member Bruce Hamblin; Secretary Margaret Perkins; prospective Board Members Allison Dempsey and Mike Kassel.

Chairman Atwood called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

A motion to accept the agenda for the meeting of May 17, 2017 was made by Ms. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Hamblin and approved unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes of April 12, 2017 as submitted was made by Ms. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Hamblin and approved unanimously.

Citizen Comments:

No citizens present.

Old Business:

- A. Welcome to prospective members- Allison Dempsey and Mike Kassel were present at the meeting and should submit a letter and resume to Allison Potter, Assistant Town Administrator, if interested in joining Agricultural Committee as Board Members.
- B. Updates on Chapter 61 land in Medway- no updates.
- C. Updates on legislative issues- Chairman Atwood provided prospective members with a summary of issues mentioned at previous meetings.
- D. Updates on Library Summer Lunch Program- Ms. Perkins noted that it looks like the program will happen. Friends of the Library has agreed to help in this endeavor. The program will start out small through most of July and August 2017, providing one meal per week associated with some type of program (example: story time, lunch, activity). The Community Table program has volunteered to donate one lunch this summer. The program will be limited to 30 people and start the week after the July 4th holiday. Ms. Perkins hopes to increase meals provided to 2-3 days per week next summer. Ms. Dempsey suggested contacting Medway Community Farm for produce donations.

New Business:

- A. Medway Pride Day- Chairman Atwood did not have the opportunity to reach out to others in regard to sharing a table. The Board agreed to look into this for 2018. It was noted that town groups do not need to pay membership fee to participate in Pride Day.
- B. Chairman Atwood suggested dividing Medway Chapter 61 properties among Board Members and having each member contact owners to inquire about what kind of issues they may be having and what assistance may be provided by the Agricultural Committee.
- C. Choate Park Family Day in July- Ms. Perkins asked if the Committee should have a presence. Ms. Dempsey suggested contacting Sue Robinson to collaboratively develop a simple program about pollinators that would be geared to families.
- D. Ms. Perkins informed the Board that chick hatching in the Medway Library Maker Space will begin June 8th. This program is part of the 4H Impact Club for children ages 5-18, and will meet at 4pm on Thursdays for 6 weeks.
- E. Mr. Hamblin said that someone recently inquired about haying on an area between Adams St. and High School. He noted that this may be an option in other areas of town as well.
- F. Ms. Dempsey informed the Board that the Holliston Community Farm was recently granted permission by the town's Conservation Commission to use a parcel of land as an apiary. She noted the community draw to have an apiary and a butterfly garden and how such an area can sustain itself though small admittance fees and donations.
- G. Ms. Dempsey asked if anyone had tried to make Medway a Right to Farm Community and proposed that the Board consider taking this on as a future project.

Upcoming Meetings:

June 21, 2017 at 7:30 PM.

Adjournment:

The Board adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Filipa LeClair

Meeting Recording Secretary