

**Agricultural Commission
January 19, 2010**



Meeting in room 104, 2 Jabish St., Lawrence Memorial Hall

Member present: Grace Adzima, Judy Gillan, Hope Guardenier

Associate Members: Daniel Beaudette, Susan Gay, Michael Austin, Matt Kotowski

Absent Members: W. Shattuck, A. Page

Grace introduced the newest members, Mike Austin and Matt Kotowski. They introduced themselves and gave a brief about their interests in farming.

Grace discussed the farmer gathering and would like to have information regarding land preservation on hand, and perhaps someone to speak on it.

Dan will have some information available for land preservation options.

Grace said she would take orders for anyone who wants a DVD of the Chapter 61 Land Use Changes lecture from May of 2007. Nathan L'Otelle, of the Mass Farm Bureau gave a lecture on the changes to the chapter. Grace will invite a representative from the Assessor office here in town.

Grace notified everyone of the CAN committee who will put on a food drive this month.

Dan stated that the Town of Deerfield is trying to use their own figures for the chapter revenue, stating their property has a larger value than what the State of Massachusetts has allotted. This case will go through the court system and may set precedent for other towns as well.

Judy spoke of the list of priorities from the Community Plan. The Agricultural Commission has a section in the plan. Discussed the town boards and commissions and whether the list is checked to see if the priorities on the list are being met.

The next gathering will be the annual farmer gathering. It is planned for January 30, 2010 at 3 pm and refreshments will be served.

Adjourned at 8 pm.

Minutes submitted by S. Gay