

**Agricultural Commission
Nov. 17, 2009**



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

Member present: Grace Adzima, Judy Gillan, Hope Guardenier
Associate Members: Daniel Beaudette, Susan Gay, Alan Page

Absent Members: W. Shattuck

Grace brought up the agricultural commission gatherings that will be held in the future. She read the flyer and will send a reminder.

The Granby horse group will hold a ball at the VFW on December 5, 2009. The proceeds will go toward Belchertown C.A.N. and Blue Star Equestrian in Palmer, MA.

There will be a winter conference the third Saturday in January 2010 by N.O.F.A. Grace gave a brief of the conference.

The yearly farmer meeting will be held January 30, 2010. Topics were discussed.

Discussed: biochar, feasibility study focus, soil enhancement, job development, energy, and Belchertown resources.

Judy spoke of a proposal for a rendering plant at New England Small Farm Institute on Jackson Street. She brought the idea to the Planning Board at a recent meeting. She went over the various items regarding the proposal. Judy noted that composting and mobile poultry were recently demonstrated at N.E.S.F.I.

James Natle stopped in from another meeting that was just held by the Community Preservation Committee and they (CPA) have funds for projects. The CPA deadline is January 15, 2010.

Spoke about the website for the agricultural commission. The Computer Director, Kevin Hannon will be asked if he can help get the website updated by allowing a member of this commission to access the site.

Discussed Agricultural Protection Restrictions and changes to the regulations.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is December 15, 2009.

Adjourned 8:45 pm.

minutes submitted by S. Gay