

Minutes of Belchertown Agricultural Commission, February 19th, 2008



Present: members-G Adzima, J Clements, A Page , R Reidy

Guests : Dan Beaudette

Absent: S Gay, J Gillan, H. Guardenier, W Shattuck

Meeting started 7:05.

Annual Farmer's Gathering

Our Farmer's Gathering was held on Saturday, January 19th at 4:00. Twenty people attended. We started with a presentation by Dan Beaudette on Energy Grants available from the USDA. We then reviewed the Ag Commission accomplishments in the past year. A request was made for us to plan a food preparation seminar with the Board of Health.

Horsemen's meeting

Agcom would like to publish a horse brochure this year. We are inviting horse owners out on February 22nd, 2008. Guest speaker will be Dr. Clifford Morcum on winter horse care. We will then have applications for the brochure and discuss issues of horse owners.

Wind Energy

We learned at the Farmer's meeting that the wind maps show three potential areas for wind generation. Discussed possibility of contacting Mass Technology Collaborative to discuss feasibility.

In light of rising fuel and food costs, we would like to review how Belchertown can grow more locally.

Adjourned 8:30

Summary by Grace Adzima