

**Belchertown Agricultural Commission**

March 20, 2018

Belchertown Town Hall – 7:00 pm

Minutes taken by Tammy T Ryan

Present: Will Shattuck, Chairman  
Louise Butler  
Tammy T Ryan  
Judy Gillan  
Tom Hastings  
Tom Roberts

Will discussed the Mass Ag Comm meeting. There was a power point passed around on trespassing. Judy suggested putting it on our website as our members would be interested in that.

This brought up the question of the Ag Comm website, which does not appear to be up to date. Judy says that Nina Sossen was contracted to create the website. Tammy is following up with Nina about this.

It was mentioned that there is a new USDA processing facility opening up in Westport soon.

Judy brought the 2018 Ag Day white paper and handed it out for everyone to look at the upcoming legislations and budgets.

The Right To Farm highway signs were discussed by the group. It is proposed that there will be 2 signs on Rt. 202, 2 on Rt. 9, 1 on Rt. 21, and 1 on Rt. 181. Will will look into the cost of this and try to get \$500 for the Ag Comm into the town budget.

The Ag Comm currently has \$500 in the bank and we would like to use that money for making a new pamphlet. Judy suggested putting information about the right to farm in the brochure. It is reported that Lori is collecting the information from farmers to put in the brochure.

The July 15<sup>th</sup> farmers market was discussed. It is the weekend of the car show. Will will talk to Gary Brougham about moving vendors to the edge of the parking area during the car show.

Judy suggested having a resource shelf or box in town hall for ag comm members to be able to utilize. Will will find out if we can do that.

The next meeting will be April 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.