TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS Agricultural Commission Meeting

March 7, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. with the following members present: Bill Ames, Dave Kalinoski, Bill Llewelyn, Al Stone (FaceTime), & Jerry Wagener.

- Stacy Bond from Pine Meadow Road was interviewed for a position on the board. She expressed her interest in being a member and gave the board a brief resume of her qualifications. It was decided to hold on her acceptance until we know exactly what positions are available. (Full time position or alternate.)
- It was decided to have commission meetings on the second Tuesday Dave Kalinoski seconded it.
- ➤ Bill Llewelyn stated that the board's budget balance is \$460.85. And next year's budget will be \$500 (same as last year).
- The minutes for November, 2016 and January, 2017 were signed.
- Bob Duby sent everyone an email about the bee issue discussed at the Agricultural Commissions meeting held in South Deerfield recently. Bee population has been a concern for many years. Research is being done on this subject. A lot of the issue is proper management of pesticides. Changes need to be made to protect the bee population. We will be receiving more information from the Farm Bureau as time goes on. The thought was that maybe we could publish information in the town newsletter and/or gather information and make it more available. There will be further discussion of this subject and beekeeping in general. We have a few beekeepers in Northfield: Dean Kuhlka from South Mountain Apiary, a Birnam Road resident and one on the Gulf Road. Hope to get more concrete information for next meeting.
- It was mentioned that the Northfield PTO has invited all Northfield Boards to the first annual "State of Our Town" dinner to be held on April 8 at the Northfield Elementary School. There will be an opportunity to give a short spiel by a member of each board. One or two of our board will try to be present for this event.

Next meeting will be May 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Patricia Stone

Cc: Administrative Assistant

Al Stone