

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Agricultural Commission Meeting**  
May 9, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Stacy Bond, Bob Duby, Eugene L'Etiole, Dave Kalinoski, Bill Llewelyn, Al Stone & Jerry Wagener.

- Minutes were read, accepted and signed.
- It was noted that the balance of our budget is \$365.93.
- Motion was made and seconded for Stacy Bond to join the Agricultural Commission as an alternate until an opening comes up for full member status. A letter will be sent to the Selectboard requesting that she be granted this status.
- Eugene L'Etiole and Bill Llewelyn's terms expire as of June 30, 2017. Eugene stated he will not be running for another term.
- Status of the CPA money – we have about 100 barn brochures left. We can extend the \$1,200 for another year. Jerry Wagener will check with Lotus to see what the cost would be for more barn brochures. It was decided to spend about \$300 from the budget to help pay for more brochures.
- A letter will be sent to the Town Accountant, Debbie Mero, to carry over the leftover money from the CPA for another year.
- The Northfield "Ridge" Association meets the first Saturday in August. Al Stone will be taking farm brochures and directories to distribute to any residents who did not get them.
- Bill Llewelyn spoke at the "State of Our Town" forum at the Elementary School that was sponsored by the PTO. Approximately 200 townspeople turned out for the event. Each board was asked to speak about three minutes. Representatives from the Thomas Aquinas College spoke as well. They are the new owners of a portion of the NMH Northfield campus. It was overall a very informative evening.
- The current status of the bee population: How to educate the general populace on the issues surrounding the organic and commercial methods used to farm was discussed. It was noted that the South Mountain Apiary does not have any problems with pesticides. It was stated at an AG meeting in South Deerfield that the Berkshires are having a problem with pesticides but have not been able to pinpoint the cause. Probably a combination reasons. It was noted that without the use of pesticides in the area crop production would be low.
- Can the Board put together a program/forum that would educate the general public on ticks and bees?
- Jerry Wagener discussed the Chapter 61 properties and the work the Open Space Committee is currently involved in.
- Next meeting will be July 11, 2017. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Patricia Stone, Secretary  
cc: Administrative Assistant

