

**Town of Bridgewater Massachusetts
Agricultural Commission
Meeting Minutes 2/28/17**

- 1. Meeting was called to order at 7:56 pm. Brian Alves, David Anderson and Lori Tunewicz-Gavin were Agricultural Commission members present. Brian Alves presided over the meeting.**
- 2. Meeting minutes from last month were read and accepted as read.**
- 3. This meeting's agenda was approved by the commission.**
- 4. Time for public comments-no public present.**
- 5. Communication-MAAC (MA Association of Ag Commissions) meeting date was shared with us.**
- 6. Reports of Sub Committees- NA**
- 7. Unfinished business-**

A. Establish a procedure for dealing with agricultural complaints.(ongoing process).

- 1. Obtain description of complaint and details.**
- 2. Determine course of action which may include:**
 - a. A drive-by**
 - b. Visit/inspection and documentation (this may be initiated by an introductory visit, leaving a brochure about the Agricultural Commission, its mission and the reason for the visit.**
 - c. Bring back findings to the next meeting.**

**B. Update on Agricultural Commission Brochure (Brian):
Brian will continue to work on this.**

C. Research update on

- 1. State Agricultural Law- The commission decided to begin to look at state decisions/lawsuits involving agriculture through Google Scholar to help increase our knowledge of Massachusetts state agricultural laws and precedents.**

- 2. Statutory Supreme Court decisions regarding roosters and other hot topics- in process.**
 - 3. Manure regulations-in process**
 - D. Bridgewater Ag Com has officially joined MA Association of Ag Coms (MAAC). Their annual meeting was on February 25, 2017. It was attended by our Ag Com member Dave Anderson. He gave a full report and shared much about all of the current events and issues regarding agriculture in MA.**
- 8. New Business**
- A. Discuss plans for any new complaints- No new complaints have been filed.**
 - B. Information on the Wareham livestock regulation proposal- Wareham was contacted and the regulation was not pursued further.**
- 9. Miscellaneous- Annual Agricultural Day at the State House is Tuesday April 4, 2017. Ag com members would like to attend as their schedules allow.**

Next meeting March 28, 2017 at 7:30 at the Academy Building.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm.