

MANSFIELD AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
DRAFT Minutes of November 2, 2010 meeting
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
Conference Room B, 7:30 p.m.

Chairman Al Cyr called the meeting to order at 7:35.

PRESENT: Al Cyr, Charlie Galgowski, Raluca Moncanu, Meredith Poehlitz, Larry Lombard, Ed Wazer, Jennifer Kaufman

Minutes of the October 5, 2010, meeting were approved.

Old Business

- *Farm Tax Options Update*-Meredith reported that the committee is moving forward. The subcommittee is going to attend the AGvocate Workshop held on November 29 entitled *Tax Incentives to Protect Family Farms*. A recommendation should be made to the Town Council sometime mid-winter.
- *Agriculture Zoning Update*—Al, Charlie and Jennifer reported on a meeting with Greg Padick and circulated that draft zoning regs. The committee will review the draft and will make comments at the next meeting. Jennifer will be part of Eastern Ct RC &D's working group on sample livestock regs. She will keep the committee informed of their progress.

New Business

- *AG Lease Policy*-A subcommittee will be chosen in December to review the Leasing of AG Land Policy
- *Right To Farm Ordinance*- The committee discussed proposing that the Town consider a right-to-farm ordinance similar to that being passed in several other towns throughout the state. The committee will continue to discuss this issue during future meetings.

Other

- Charlie reported on Joan Nichols' PA 490 presentation stating that the guide will be very helpful and the presentation was very well done.
- Jennifer reported that the Sustainability Committee would like the AG Com to attend their meeting of January 26 at 7 pm. Giving the presentation that was given to the Town Council seemed like the best way to frame a discussion with them.

Items for future agendas

- Review agriculture lease reports (Jan)
- Prep for Sustainability Committee meeting (Dec.)
- Develop a subcommittee to discuss the Town Policy for leasing Ag land. (Dec)
- Right to Farm Ordinance (Feb)
- Tax Incentives (TBA)
- Zoning (1 hour per meeting until it is resolved)

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.