

## Ag Com Meeting .. April 7, 2014

Call to order 7:30

Attending : Mike Pineo, Bob Nickerson, Dave Grinkis, Susan Phinney, Ann Starbard, guest - Dawn Hartnett

Minutes from March meeting. Dave. 1st motion, Phinney 2nd motion, approved unanimously.

Correspondence - Bill from Sterling Meetinghouse News. approved;

Old Business - MAAC annual meeting - Good event at Old Mill, Mike Pineo, and Bob Nickerson attended, increase in 13 Ag coms state com.; Laura Grabski Pres.(Essex) Mike Pineo, V.P; information available on MAAC website and facebook. 2015 - annual meeting will be connected with Harvest New England.

Discussion on pending Nutrient Management disposal regulations -- DEP, DAR ?

Farmers Market - Dawn and Mike attended a recent Selectboard meeting - market approved for 2014; some new vendors - Alpacas, whoopie pie, wanting to have a fish vendor - many vendors the same. Friday May 16 is the first market this year.

Grange meeting - Mike and Bob went to Grange Meeting last Thursday - Bob spoke about the history of Ag Com at the meeting. Grange dinner April 17 fundraiser. The Ag Com needs to support the Grange and assist as possible with rejuvenation of the Sterling - Shirley Grange.

2014 Farm tour and Festival - Phinney summarizing with Lisa Perry input. So far, four volunteers have signed up, similar to last year. FM festival / Farm Tour -- supportive of one another but not as intertwined as last year. Farm tour volunteers will help with Farm Tour and not necessarily with the Farmers Market Festival. Farm Tour - start on common, involving Grange. Phinney and Lisa Perry are contacting farmers time - 10 - 2 Saturday. July 25 - 26. Friday for FM festival, Saturday for Farm Tour.

Does Ag Com want to support the Tour? Bob Nickerson - announce event, not supporting a specific business. Ann moved for Ag Com to support FM festival and Farm Tour both financially and work Bob 2nd .. with reserve for dollar value. unanimously approved. Discussion on a brochure. Idea to create a single panel brochure with information on the participating farms. Bob N. and Phinney to work on this and bring idea to the table next month. rain date?? 8 farms participated last year.

Road Signs - signs purchased last year at Blue Favreau's house. Need to get them up.

Motion to adjourn phinney, 2nd dave. 8:45 pm

Submitted, A. Starbard, Clerk