

Egremont Agricultural Commission

April 7, 2017

Attending: **Elizabeth Keen, Andre Vankov, Peter Maggio, Jennifer Brown**

Agenda:

- 1) Discuss Pollinator Friendly Community language and plan--Elizabeth
- 2) Upcoming Newsletter--Elizabeth
- 3) Farm Bureau news--Carla
- 4) Local Farmers Gather initiative--Elizabeth/Peter
- 5) Update from Andre on medical marijuana regulations
- 6) Website update--Report Back Andre
- 7) Miscellaneous

Meeting begins at 7:09PM.

1. Meeting minutes from December 7th are approved.
2. Elizabeth read wording from Great Barrington advisory resolution on Bee Pollinator friendly Community (BPC). Discussion took place. Carla noted that on State level this issue was presented from home owners prospective and at times it was very messy from a law stand point. Do we want as a group to move forward with Pollinator Friendly Community? Elizabeth suggested having educational session in the summer. Carla noted ticks becoming a serious issue. Elizabeth suggested brainstorm 3-min session of a need for BPC. Educational evening as one Sat event is a possibility. AgCom website link. Newsletter. Mailing. Egremont post forum. Local Radio. It was decided everyone will take a small task from the above. Due date is May 6 to get preliminary tasks completed. Suggestion ó invite Vivian from GB to the next AgCom meeting in Egremont.
3. Newsletter ó Elizabeth will write it about BPC and Local Farmers Markets.
4. Elizabeth debriefed on Local Farmers Gather initiative meeting with Barbara Zheutlin. Pot luck BYOE (everything)
5. Andrei debriefed on farming marijuana in MA in commercial scale ó what it takes. He cited lots of information to that matter was available in a recent Boston Globe article called "To farmers, cannabis could mean much bigger bucks than tomatoes", April 4, 2017 by Joel Warner. (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/magazine/2017/04/04/farmers-cannabis-could-mean-much-bigger-bucks-than-tomatoes/mVrlYgz3hQawDhVgQFvamL/story.html>)
6. Andrei reported EAC has no website link
7. Andrei is leaving Town on April 14. He requested a resignation from Egremont AgCom due to move.
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM

Next meeting will be Thursday July 13, 2017 7PM