

Loudon Agricultural Meeting: July 22, 2009, 7 p.m. Community Building

Next Meeting:
Wed., Aug. 26, 2009

Board Members:

Carole Soule, Per Garp, Melissa Moore, Larry Moore, and Earl Tuson

Attendees:

Bob Lyon, Diane Briggs, William Brown, Brian Ramsay, Alice Tuson, John Storrs, Pearl Aznive, Charlie Aznive, Roy Merrill

Minutes:

Rachel Valladares from the NH Migrant Education Program gave a brief explanation about the New Hampshire Migrant Education Program. The Migrant Education Program (Title I Part C) is a federally-funded program that provides educational and support services for eligible children of migrant farm workers and fishermen (or the workers themselves if under 22 years old.) To refer a child or to learn more contact: NH Migrant Education Program, NH Dept of Education, 101 Pleasant St., Concord, NH 271,2273 (office) 391-8720 (cell), 724-9921 (Espagnol) rachele.valladares@ed.state.nh.us.

Colin Cabot will not be able to serve on the commission. Members will vote for officers at the next meeting.

It was agreed that the Loudon Agricultural Commission would represent all farms in Town. The commission will use the definition of a farm as detailed in: RSA 21:34-a and available here: www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/i/21/21-34-a.htm

Action Items:

- Locate local farms – all members and attendees will identify farms in Loudon – All members and attendees. Please send this information to Carole Soule
- The Loudon Ledger will publish a list of Loudon farms identified by the Commission. The list will include farm information and a brief description of the farm activities. Please send this information to Carole Soule who will send to the Ledger
- Information will be emailed to members and attendees — Carole Soule
- The Zoning Ordinances will be reviewed — All members
- A web site will be investigated — Bruce Dawson
- Publication of the next Agricultural Commission meeting will appear in the August Loudon Ledger (Deb K confirmed this after the meeting)
- RSA 21:34-a www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/i/21/21-34-a.htm will be reviewed — All members

Concerns to be Addressed:

- How can the Commission help to keep farms in production
- What can be done to attract farms/farmers to Loudon
- Alternative Zoning for farm activities
- Conservation Easements
- How can “dis-incentives” to break up large farms be addressed
- Farm equipment sharing
- Other projects that the group can work together on
- How to encourage the community to buy locally
- Common marketing projects to be addressed

- Fund raising and providing a scholarship for young farmers

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.