



TOWN OF ACTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes 30 Mar, 2021

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present: Morene Bodner, Patrick Hearn, Joe Hebert, Peggy Hebert, Heidi Porten, Paul Simeone

Natural Resources Assistant, Zoom host, and recording secretary: Bettina Abe

Attendees: Acton Conservation Trust President Susan Mitchell-Hardt, Andy Magee of Acton Open Space Committee.

Specific Business:

Heidi convened the meeting at 6:02 PM

- 1 The virtual meeting advisory was read in its entirety**
- 2 Morene assumed temporary chair role as Heidi and Paul were recused from discussion and vote on the following topic.**
- 3 Review application to Community Preservation Committee (CPC) to purchase an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) on Stonefield Farm. Presentation by Andy Magee of Acton Open Space Committee.** Andy clarified that the specific request to the Ag Comm is to signify their intention to be a co-applicant along with OSC to the CPC application in which \$1.23 M will be requested for distribution from existing set-aside of \$2.0M for the purchase of the Stonefield Farm APR. Andy explained that the Value of the APR has been assessed at \$1.9M but the Boston Area Gleaners have agreed to sell the APR for \$1.2M, approximately \$700,000 lower than the assessed value. Andy noted that \$30,000 of the request will be used for the long-term monitoring of the APR and that the administrative process for the application is as follows:
 - a) Co-Application from OSC and Ag Comm to CPC
 - b) CPC Vote
 - c) If approved the request will be made by CPC to 2021 town meeting as a separate item from other CPC requests but at the same time.
 - d) Details of the presenters and supporting BoS speakers will be finalized before the town meeting.

Morene called for a motion as stated by Bettina to “Move that the Ag Comm be a co-applicant along with the OSC to the CPC for the requested \$1.23M to be applied to the Stonefield Farm APR and APR monitoring”. Pat Moved and Joe Seconded. Pat, Joe, Peggy and Morene voted in favor making the vote unanimous of those not recused.

- 4 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:24 PM
- 5 Linked relevant documents and meeting materials can be found in the Agricultural Commission's page on the Town website or through the following link. <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-12706>