

Minutes from the October 25, 2017 meeting of the Charlestown Agricultural Preservation Commission

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. Those present were Noel Rowe, Susan Barrett, Michael Merner, and John Barrett.

2. A quorum was present.

3. The minutes of the CAPC meeting of July 12, 2017 were reviewed and approved. In discussion, Mike Merner said he has found the "Food Modernization Safety Act" is even more complicated than he originally thought it was. It is very difficult. How much training is needed? We at this table have no idea how this will affect small farms in Rhode Island. The chair of the commission said he would ask for some clarification.

2.
 4. OLD BUSINESS: Alternates for this Commission are still being sought. None were found. Susan Barrett suggested putting an entry in the Charlestown Pipeline about getting more Commission members.

 5. NEW BUSINESS: We reviewed the Rhode Island Food Policy Council update of their RI Food System Fact Sheets for roadside stands in Charlestown which came as an email request from Laura Alves. We find that "roadside stands" is a very loose definition. Some stands exist only when a farmer has excess eggs etc. and then they are gone. We also reviewed the Charlestown farm lists. Noel will communicate the changes in a letter about the list contents to the Charlestown town clerk. Some farms on the list were unknown as far as their current status (active/inactive). We all divided up those we did not know about and we will call their owners to update the list.

 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:
There were none.

 7. ADJOURNMENT:
A motion to adjourn was made by Michael Merner and seconded by Susan Barrett. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02PM.

APPROVED January 17, 2018