

Portsmouth Agriculture Committee

January 28, 2015, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

AGENDA

Call to order at 6:00 p.m.

- Approve previous meeting minutes

OLD BUSINESS

- Review/Discuss – Updated Zoning Ordinance Amendment proposed by Portsmouth’s Planner, Gary Crosby.
- Status Update/Brief of RI Agricultural Partnership projects including Farmers Market Survey, Agricultural Guidelines, Ag. Website status
- Status Update/Brief of current farmer projects in Portsmouth and on Aquidneck Island
- Agriculture Committee representative appearance on “Portsmouth This Week.”

NEW BUSINESS

- Welcome new liaison from Town Council
- Discuss and/or elect Committee President, Vice President, Secretary
- Request for future agenda items (*including review of pending updates/briefs listed above*)

ADJOURN

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - Events of interest to farmers and growers:

- RINLA Winter Meeting, Jan. 21 – 22, Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Cranston, RI rinla.org
- NOFA-NY Winter Conference, Jan. 23 – 25, Saratoga Springs, NY nofany.org/events/winter-conference
- NOFA-NJ Food & Agriculture Winter Conference, Jan. 24 – 25, Lincroft, NJ nofanj.org/winterconference.htm
- NOFA-NH Winter Conference, Jan. 31, Concord, NH nofanh.org/events/winter-conference
- Philadelphia Flower Show, Feb. 1 – 8, theflowershow.com/show-info
- Vegetable Pest and Disease Workshop I: Cucurbits and Brassicas, Feb. 7, UConn Torrington, extension.uconn.edu/root/feb-veg-wkshp.php
- Carbon Farming Intensive: Science, Crops and Enterprises with Eric Toensmeier, Feb. 10 – 14, Milan, NY carbonfarmingcourse.com
- Vegetable Pest and Disease Workshop II: Solanaceae and Legumes, Feb. 14, Vernon, CT extension.uconn.edu/root/feb-veg-wkshp.php
- NOFA-VT Winter Conference, Feb. 14 – 15, Burlington, VT nofavt.org/annual-events/winter-conference
- RI Spring Flower & Garden Show, Feb. 19 – 22, Providence, RI FlowerShow.com
- Meat Conference, Feb 22 – 25, Nashville, TN MeatConference.com
- Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show, Feb. 25 – 26, Sturbridge, MA HarvestNewEngland.org
- Ecological Landscape Association Winter Conference & Eco-Marketplace, Feb. 25 – 26, Springfield, MA ecolandscaping.org/conference
- SEMAP Ag & Food Conference, Mar, 1, Bristol County Agricultural High School, Digton, MA semaponline.org/events
- CT NOFA Winter Conference, Mar. 7, Danbury, CT ctnofa.org/winterconference
- Restoring Health to Agricultural Ecosystems: Principles and Practices from Soil to Communities, Mar. 4 – 6, Paicines, CA hpaicinesranch.com/classes-clinics
- URI Master Gardeners Garden Symposium: Critters, Containers and Native Plants: Gardening in Harmony with Nature, Mar 7, Kingston, RI urimastergardeners.org/2015-garden-symposium
- Local Specialty Crop Trade Show & Local Food Trade Show – Connecting Wholesale Buyers and Producers of Local Food, Mar. 10, Boston, MA bostonlocalfood.com/our-events/buy-local-trade-show
- RI Compost Conference & Trade Show, Mar. 16, URI Kingston, RI environmentcouncilri.org
- Pollinator Health for Agriculture and Landscapes, March 26, UMass/Amherst Extension Symposium

Next meeting: January 28, 2015 Future meetings will be final Wednesdays, alternate odd months 6 to 8 p.m. The May or July meeting(s) may be rescheduled due to peak farmer commitments in those months.

The public is welcome to any meeting of the Town's boards or its committees. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact the Town Clerk's office at (401) 683-2101 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN HALL IS HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE. THOSE PERSONS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE SHOULD CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE AT 683-2101 PRIOR TO ANY MEETING.