

Brooklyn Agriculture Commission
Tuesday, October 2, 2012
7 pm
Brooklyn Town Office

Present: Cheri Poirier, Chair, Lou Brodeur, Joyce Meader, Sheri Vogt

Minutes: august minutes approved with the addition of Lou Brodeur in attendance (JM, LB) PAGE

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Liona A. Mainville
TOWN CLERK, BROOKLYN, CT

Old Business:

- a. Revised municipal tax exemption ordinance will be presented to the selectmen, with the request for a town meeting for a vote of approval. First Selectman, Austin Tanner provided a copy of the tax money lost due to the building tax exemption for farmers with over \$15000 in farm expenses or income. The 12 farms benefiting from the building exemption would reduce their taxes by a total of \$11,045, if they all signed up for the exemption. Selectman Tanner will ask the assessor for the taxes lost due to the extra \$100,000 equipment exemption. These totals and the range of taxes paid by the farms would be summarized in a fact sheet which would describe the ordinance and the goal of helping farms remain in Brooklyn. The fact sheet would be available at the town meeting as well as any selectmen's forum held.
- b. Walktober walk Oct 13, 10-12:30 PM. Rudy and Anne Ennis are looking forward to the tour of their farms. Rudy will display antique farm tools at the picnic lunch following the tour.
- b. Community Farmland Preservation Program: the Barrett Hill Farm may not be selected this time, as the applications submitted before July 31st may have used up the current funding. The application will remain active as more funding is expected. Barrett Hill Farm is also interested in other programs that protect conservation lands.

New Business:

None.

Adjourned 7:30 PM

Sincerely,

Joyce E. Meader, Secretary