

Sheffield Agricultural Commission
May, 20 2021 – APPROVED

Present: Jim Kelly, Amelia Conklin, Kathy Orlando, Bob Kilmer, Holly Aragi

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm.

Sheffield Farmers' Market:

The commission voted unanimously to support the Sheffield Farmers' Market in 2021 in the amount of \$500 for the SNAP Match program, COVID response, and general programming. Holly A. and Bob K. voted in favor. Jim K., Kathy O., and Amelia C. abstained as they serve on the Sheffield Farmers' Market Steering Committee.

Budget:

We have a 2020-21 budget of \$1,000 to spend by the end of June 2021.

Local Agriculture Issues:

Farmers who engage in the cultivation of marijuana or lease land for the cultivation of marijuana become ineligible for all federal and some state agricultural programs. This was not originally announced by the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, and is an extremely important point for farmers to consider when thinking about cultivating or leasing land for the cultivation of marijuana.

Brochure:

We are still in the phase of survey response collection. Kathy O. will re-send the list of farmers who have not yet replied to the survey.

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm. The next meeting will be June 15, 2021 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Conklin