

Dartmouth Agricultural Commission
Goal Setting
2002-2003

Farmland Protection

- Mapping, soils and update lots
- Subcommittee: partner with Dartmouth Agricultural Preservation Trust Fund Council (DAPTFC) to prioritize parcels
- 61A application review after October deadline
- New England Small Farm Institute's "Land Link" Program
- *Recommendations to DAPTFC

Political Action

- Mediation – send notices to Boards 1-2X/year
- Local Right to Farm Law
- Piggery regulations
- Board of Health regulations
- Zoning by-laws
- Attend meetings of other boards
- *Partner with SEMAP

Agricultural Business economic Development

- Grange Community Shared-Use Kitchen
- Labor search
- Support "Buy Local"
- Promote and support UMD courses
- Horse-livestock arena – Town Park, old Fall River Rd., N. Dartmouth

Public Relations/Outreach/Education

- Encourage development of Agricultural Commissions in other towns
- Interaction with other Town boards
- Increase visibility (display in Town Hall)
- Education (liaison and resource library)
- Farm Open House Day
- Newspaper articles
- Circle of friends (lawyer, writer, politically connected, soil scientist, large animal veterinarian, 4-H, grant writer, photographer, web master)
- *Update mailing list
- *Newsletter (include information and deadlines for state and federal funding programs)

* Indicates on-going activities

Westport Agricultural Commission 2003 Goals

Mission: To facilitate and encourage the pursuit of agriculture in Westport, and to promote agricultural-based opportunities in town.

GOAL	TASK	LEADERS	WHEN
A. Maintain Improved Relations with Town Boards			
	1. Mediate between farmers and state/town boards	Delegated case by case	Ongoing
	2. Assist/advise Trust Fund and Community Preservation Councils	Karl, John-Jay	Ongoing
	3. Send a flyer about the work of AgCom to Town Boards 2 x / year		6 and 12/03
B. Public Relations: Advocate for Farmers Issues and Needs			
	1. Develop Public Relations Program	Schmid/Webster	6/03 agenda
	2. Enhance Neighbor relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Neighbor Dinners b. Publish "Living Near a Farm" 	All Tbd Pamphlet Team	Ongoing Tbd 6/03 agenda 8/03 publish
	3. Formally thank Advisors and friends		
	4. Get local Right to Farm By-law passed based on existing state law.	Right to Farm Team	2004 Town Meeting
	5. Create/update Farm and Forest Map	Anthony/Jeff/Alyn	8/03
C. Meet Specific Needs of Farmers			
	1. Find ways of making farming profitable in Westport	All	ongoing
	2. Develop local milk processing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Coordinate input & support b. Assist in development of business plan c. Identify grants 	Dairy Team Karl, Jay and JJ Friends/Advisor Grants Team	Fall 2003 Summer 2003 5/03 5-6/03
	3. Develop programs for value-added products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Invite speakers: Barbara Link, Babson College, Irene Winkler b. Brainstorm c. Have SEMAP presence thru delegate 	Trip, Barbara All Charlie	Ongoing By Fall 2003 done
	4. Survey farmers each year for their input and involvement	Trip	9/02 agenda fdbk 10/03-draft 11/03-out 12/03-compile-report

Rehoboth Agricultural Commission 2003-2004 Goals

GOAL	TASK	MEMERS	WHEN
A. Operational			
	1. Define mission statement and work plan (FY04)	all	1/04
	2. Define rules of operation – voting, etc.	All	1/04
	3. Determine how to get budget monies from town – visit with Jay Kelly and BOS		2004 Town Meeting
B. Public Outreach – Outreach and Media Plan FY 2004			
	1. Assemble a flyer about who and what the Ag Com is – for town-wide mailing-visibility and education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. develop sound bytes and points to reinforce with media-Rehoboth Reporter, etc. b. Consider a regular mailing-quarterly c. Develop Ag Com specific mailing list in database format (MsAccess) 		Spring 2004
	2. Visit with all Town Boards and identify a liaison		1/04
	3. Work with neighboring AgComs, introduce to SEMAP, Pilgrim RC&D - informal		ongoing
	4. Appoint a Circle of Friends for support and expertise		Spring 2004
	5. Determine if will have an event in 2004 – get together-fundraiser, etc. Ex: get to know a neighbor day, farm open house day, cable show		1/04
C. Meet Specific Needs of Farmers			
	1. Determine method to track Rehoboth farmer/ag enterprise needs – public forums, surveys, interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. review survey work already done b. plan for one yearly survey-talk with other AgComs c. Implement Plan 	All	ongoing
	2. Advocacy Plan –What Needs to be done		
F. Farmland Protection			
	1. Request BOS notify AgCom immediately when property coming out of Chapter 61		ongoing
	2. Inventory and map all Ch. 61 and lands in farming	Friends	Fall 2004
	3. Develop priorities and method for assessing prime farm land i.e., must be saved		
	4. Create acquisition plan and funding	Friends	Fall 2004
G. Economic Development			
	1. Determine what are immediate needs of farmers-look at agenda items in other AgComs Ex: haypool		ongoing
	2. Identify people and resources to help navigate public monies and resources available to farmers – farm viability monies and smart growth		ongoing
	3. Create match making network/support for farmers to monies and resources		
	4. Create plan and funding		

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Middleborough Agricultural Commission 2004 Goals

GOAL	TASK	MEMBERS	WHEN
A. Proactive Service to the Agricultural Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance existing relationships with Town Boards 2. Establish relationships with Farmers Markets 3. Promote Middleborough as a “Farm friendly” town 4. Facilitate the Buy Local Campaign in Middleborough and create a model that can be used in other communities. 4. Establish a presence with MA Ag in the Classroom 		
B. Long Term Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Mapping of agricultural land and assessment of businesses, 61A and protection mechanisms. 2. Explore funding options for farmland protection.. 		
C. Efficient Commission Operations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure ag. Comm. Members and officers 2. Form “Friends” group 3. Maintain representation with SEMAP. 4. Create subcommittees as they are needed. 		