

**MINUTES**  
**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room**  
**334 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230**  
**Thursday June 29, 2017, 3:00 PM**

1. Call to Order by Chair at 3:05pm

- PRESENT:
  - Members: Devan Arnold, Laury Epstein, Michael Maguire, Vivian Orłowski,
  - Guest: Town Planner Chris Rembold

2. New Business

- Solar Project Application Presentation by Jessica Roberts from Tighe and Bond for Kearsage Solar LLC project proposed to occur at 0 West Plain Rd. in Great Barrington.

Following the presentation, the group discussed and developed recommendations to the Planning Board re: implementation in accordance with the new zoning bylaw on large solar installations.

MOTION: Michael Maguire moves for a positive recommendation noting concerns about tree replacement, adequate reclamation bond, specific pollinator mix, tree removal post-project, and no use of pesticides or herbicides within the project scope.

Devan Arnold seconds the Motion. 4-0 unanimous in favor.

MOTION: Devan Arnold moves to compile a list of pollinator friendly options for use under solar arrays, and for Michael to make a list of screening trees.

Michael Maguire seconds the motion. 4-0 unanimous in favor.

- Reorganize: Chair, Vice Chair

MOTION: Michael Maguire moves to appoint Devan to serve as chair, and for Vivian to serve as vice chair of the commission.

Laurie Epstein seconds the motion. 4-0 unanimous in favor.

3. Old Business

- Review of Minutes

MOTION: Laurie Epstein moves to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.

Michael Maguire seconds the motion. 4-0 unanimous in favor.

- Update on Pollinator-Friendly Community Resolution Outreach/Planning

MOTION: Michael Maguire moves to become members of the Western Mass Pollinator Network, and volunteers to be the contact person for that organization as a Ag Comm representative.

Devan Arnold seconds the motion. 4-0 unanimous in favor.

MOTION: Michael moves to encourage Doug Tallamy (author of *Bringing Nature Home*) to speak in southern Berkshire County.

Laurie Epstein seconds the motion. 4-0 unanimous in favor.

4. Any Other Business that May Come Before the Commission: None

5. Citizen Speak Time: None

6. Adjournment: MOTION: Vivian Orłowski to adjourn at 4:40pm

Michael Maguire seconds the motion. 4-0 in favor.