

Plainfield Ag Commission Meeting

March 3, 2022

Present: Bi-sek Hsiao, Anna Hanchett, Ed Stockman, Sadie Stull

1. Glyphosate education: We discussed the new article that came out about glyphosate content in foods, and decided that it would be good to send the article out to the boards and GM's of the Old Creamery and the River Valley Market Co-op as a form of education. Ed will put together a cover letter to go with the article and will send it out to us for approval before he sends it out to these co-ops. The letters will be signed by the Plainfield Agricultural Commission.
2. The Resilience project: the Conway School of Landscape Design will be having a meeting on March 10, 2022, 7pm via Zoom to talk about their collaboration with the Plainfield organizations and to get community input about the project. Ed is representing the Plainfield Ag. Comm with the project's planning committee. They want to encourage as many community members to attend the meeting as possible.
3. We discussed the new marijuana operation on Broom Street and wondered whether the lights are a nuisance to neighbors and how the lights impact natural creatures and natural life cycles. Anna will check in with the neighbors on Broom Street to see if they have any concerns.
4. We discussed the recent mosquito hearings and the town mosquito opt-out process. Currently there is no information about the opt-out process for this year. We will have to just keep preparing the information for the tight timing to opt out.
5. We discussed "Act on Mass", which is a group trying to bring transparency in government and get rid of the hierarchy in the state house that prevents bills from being passed. We are rated 40 out of 50 states for openness. It is difficult to pass bills in MA. We talked about looking into this group to learn more about it.
6. Hilltown Seed Saving group is putting on a scion exchange workshop on March 26, 1-3pm in Cummington. Participants can take home a tree that they graft at the workshop. They also sponsor a plant exchange in the spring. Anna wondered if they were cautioning recipients about jumping worms and suggesting they thoroughly remove all soil from the roots of their new plants before putting them in the ground. Sadie (from HSS) agreed.