

Lampson Brook Farm Board of Directors
Minutes: May 8, 2025

Board Attendance: David Haines, Jonathan Spiegel, Tammy Ryan, Gerard Kennedy, Jennifer Soper, Vanessa Farny

1. Introductions and approval of past meeting minutes

The Minutes from the meeting held on January 28th were approved unanimously.

2. Completion of survey plan

The Board reviewed the updates to the survey which incorporates an access easement shown along the existing dirt road that leads from George Hannum Street to the back fields on Lot 9-148 F, and correction to Note 13 as requested by MDAR and DCR respectively. The survey also includes the change requested at the last Board meeting to the boundary of Lot 9 148I to incorporate the Hay Barn. The Board reviewed the changes to the survey and found those acceptable. It was noted that DCAMM would need to notify the legislature of the survey plan approval. Greg Gould, project manager for the land survey from Sherman and Fryderyk identified he would review the Form A needed to proceed with planning Board approval and determine if anything needed to be changed before soliciting DCAMM's approval. The Board then voted unanimously to accept the plan and to send notice of this acceptance together with the plan to DCAMM.

The board discussed that DCAMM will also need to notify the legislature of the management plan's completion. The Board reviewed DCAMM's response to the management plan last Fall which deferred to the Board, DCR and MDAR for any comments on the plan. DCR had noted to DCAMM an erroneous reference to the inclusion of the Compost Parcel in the Forest Parcel on Page 10. The Board made no objection to removing that reference. MDAR shared that, while they have had conflicts on other agricultural lands with public access, they feel they are satisfied the management plan continues to serve as a guiding document and will explore ways to accommodate the goals articulated in the management plan as they proceed with licensing.

3. Renewal of Board Appointments, Nomination and Vote for Board vice chair

The board discussed the request to elect a Vice Chair. A board member nominated David Haines as Vice Chair. The Board voted to elect David Haines as Vice Chair.

4. Update on transfer of Commercial Farmland to MDAR

The Board received an update from Barbara Hopson and Gerard Kennedy on MDAR's work with DCAMM to convey care and control of the commercial farm parcels. The board was informed that DCAMM has extended the lease with NESFI through 2030. NESFI in turn has sub-leases with farmers on the Commercial Farm parcel and MDAR anticipates agreements that will honor those current terms and extend leases with existing farmers on the commercial farm parcels to 2030. A board member noted the desire to see fees from licenses on Commercial Farm parcels flow to the

Board and/or Farm Manager when the Farm Manager is identified to ensure that funding is reinvested on the property and that there are MOA's drafted for Commercial Farm parcels to ensure some measure of compliance with the Management Plan. Both requests were noted by MDAR for consideration in the care and control agreement.

5. Other items raised by the Board

A board member requested the Board consider submitting a One Stop grant for the clean-up of the Dairy Barn. The grant has a June 6th deadline. The board discussed the timeline to provide feedback on a draft proposal. It was suggested that the engineering report be used to develop the funding request. The board agreed that DCAMM should be consulted as the landowner. The board then voted unanimously to authorize the submission of the grant application pending feedback or amendments proposed by members on or before May 23rd.

MDAR shared they would be hosting a 4-part training series focused on strengthening agricultural non-profits and shared the link for registration.

A Board Member flagged several items for further Board discussion at a later date including issues of public parking, cross parcel access and easement use, as well as liability insurance.

NESFI updated the Board that they have signed a new lease with DCAMM through 2030 and Belchertown CPA funds to repair the roof to the Horse Barn are pending Town Vote.

The meeting was adjourned.