

TOWN OF DENNIS
DENNIS AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MEMBERSHIP AND CHARGE

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Selectmen shall appoint a committee to be known as the Dennis Agricultural Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission. Said commission shall be composed of five (5) members appointed on a three (3) year staggered term, and one (1) alternate member to be appointed annually. The alternate members shall have voting powers only in the absence of a quorum of regular members. Commission members shall annually elect a Chairman, Secretary and any other positions deemed necessary. The Commission may designate one or more members to act as liaison to Town Boards, Committees or Departments, or other appropriate organizations as they may determine to further the goals and interests of the Commission.

COMMISSION CHARGE

Pursuant to, and in conjunction with the Dennis Right-to-Farm By-Law, the purpose of the Commission is to encourage and facilitate the pursuit of agriculture, and agricultural based activities or economic opportunities in Dennis. The Commission shall develop a work plan to guide its activities, shall act as advocators, educators and/or negotiators on farming issues, shall encourage the preservation of agricultural lands, and pursue initiatives to sustain agricultural activities in Dennis. The Commission shall also assist the Board of Selectmen, Zoning Enforcement Officer or Board of Health in mediating any disputes or complaints regarding the operation of a farm or agricultural activity in Dennis.

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

The Commission shall be governed by the policy of the Board of Selectmen regarding committees, commissions, boards and the Massachusetts Open Meeting Laws. In compliance with the Open Meeting Law, notice of the meetings shall be posted at the Dennis Town Hall and any other locations as appropriate.

All meetings of the Commission or any subcommittee established by the Commission are to be held in a public location. The Commission shall meet as often as necessary to conduct its business on a times basis, and a majority of members must be present for the Commission to meet and conduct any business scheduled before it. Minutes of each meeting shall be prepared and approved by the Commission within thirty (30) days after said meeting and distributed to the Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk. Commission members shall be mindful of their attendance obligations at Commission meetings as identified in Section 5-10 of the Town of Dennis By-Laws.

Approved 6-10-08

Revised 7-8-08