

EXAMPLE
Agricultural Commission
Membership Considerations

Guiding Principles:

Members:

- May or may not be Town residents
- Members should reflect:
 - Geographic distribution
 - A cross-section of types of farming in town
 - Large, medium and small sized farms
- Members should be trusted, credible and connected to the existing agricultural community.
- Members should have the ability to adequately represent farmers and farming in town

Selection Process:

- Board of Selectmen take the lead and have authority for process and selection
- Open application process
- Board of Selectmen accept recommendations from Agricultural Commission Steering Committee

Steps:

- Draft and run a news release stating that the Board of Selectmen is accepting applications from individuals interested in serving as a member of the Town Agricultural Commission.
- Consider a simultaneous direct mailing to those on your agricultural mailing list.(list used for Exploratory Meeting)
- Provide a minimum of 2 weeks for applicants to return applications.
- Board of Selectmen reviews applications.
- Board of Selectmen receives recommendations from Steering Committee.
- Board of Selectmen makes selections and establishes member terms.
- Board of Selectmen notifies members in writing (with list attached of all members, terms, addresses and contact numbers) Letter notes date, time and place of first gathering. (within 2 weeks of written notification)