

# Town of Sudbury

**Committee Name:**

Agricultural Commission

**Location:**

Flynn Building - Thompson Meeting Room (2nd Floor), 278 Old Sudbury Road

**Date:**

September 24, 2026

**Time:**

7:00pm

**Zoom Information:**

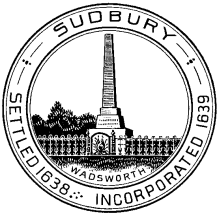
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## Minutes

**Quick recap**

The Sudbury Agricultural Commission held its first meeting to discuss its purpose, structure, and initial priorities. Members introduced themselves and shared their backgrounds in agriculture, food, and equine activities. The group elected Victor Sulkowski as Chair and Laura Abrams as Vice Chair. They discussed the need to define their mission and constituency, with a focus on supporting both established and small-scale farmers in town. The Commission considered reaching out to local farmers using the 61A list and Farm Bureau contacts, and debated the best methods for public outreach and communication. They also reviewed suggestions from the Conservation Commission and brainstormed potential projects, such as connecting schools with farms and promoting agricultural education. The meeting included procedural reminders about open meeting law compliance and the importance of formalizing their role and outreach strategies.



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## Summary

### **Agricultural Commission First Meeting Setup**

The meeting began with technical discussions about recording procedures and live streaming setup, with Lynn Puorro, Executive Director of the Sudbury Access Corporation, providing guidance to Maria Cataloni, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager at the Select Board's Office, about hitting record and managing the custom live stream. The Agricultural Commission meeting was called to order with a quorum present, including Victor Sulkowski, Joshua Joslyn, Kelly Culver, and Allison Goldfarb participating in person and Laura Abrams participating remotely due to illness. Victor Sulkowski explained that this was their first meeting and they needed to establish procedures, noting the requirements of open meeting law and that the meeting was being recorded for Sudbury TV.

### **Agricultural Commission Meeting Reestablishment**

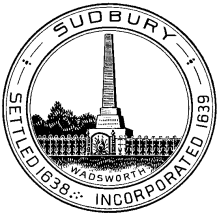
The Agricultural Commission held their first meeting in some time to discuss their role and establish procedures. Victor Sulkowski explained that being advisory rather than regulatory gives the Commission flexibility but also requires following open meeting law requirements. The group agreed to meet again on October 22nd at 7 PM, with a preference for hybrid format, and discussed the need to establish Chair and Vice Chair positions for future meetings.

### **Agricultural Commission Leadership Election**

The meeting focused on electing new leadership for the Agricultural Commission. Victor Sulkowski agreed to serve as Chair and Laura Abrams agreed to serve as Vice Chair, with both positions being one-year terms. Following the elections, members introduced themselves, sharing their backgrounds and connection to agriculture in Sudbury. The discussion concluded with a brief mention of potential overlap between the Agricultural Commission and Conservation Commission regarding agricultural preservation restrictions.

### **Open Space Recreation Plan Update**

The meeting focused on the Open Space Recreation Plan, which needs to be updated every five to seven years to qualify for state matching funds. Victor Sulkowski provided an update on the current draft, noting that it includes sections relevant to agriculture and involves multiple stakeholders. The group discussed potential actions, including supporting long-term agricultural viability, preserving scenic character, and promoting local farmers' markets. Dan Carty, Select Board Member, offered to write an article about the Agricultural Commission in the town's quarterly Municipal Update to raise awareness of the group's activities.



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## **Agricultural Commission Outreach Planning**

The Agricultural Commission meeting focused on planning outreach to farmers and the community. The group discussed reaching out to farmers first through the 61A list and Farm Bureau members before broader public communication, with Laura Abrams offering to help draft and send letters. They agreed to connect with Concord's Agricultural Committee for insights and potentially attend their meetings. The Commission also planned to explore connecting schools with farms and utilize town communication channels like the Sudbrief and FlashVote system for future outreach.