



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

August 8, 2012

REPORT OF THE LAND USE COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William A. White Jr.	Chair	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Vice Chair	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Absent	
George Proakis	Planner, OSPCD	Present	
Eddie Nuzzo	Supt., ISD	Present	
Christie Smythers		Present	

192922 - Requesting approval of a Zoning Ordinance to encourage urban agriculture by adding definitions and amending the table of uses and its footnotes to allow farms as accessory residential uses, and to allow community gardens, community farms and farming on municipal land.:

Mr. Proakis submitted a packet of information (Exhibit A) relative to the proposed ordinance governing urban agriculture. The committee reviewed the information and discussed greenhouses, roof farms, gardens, farms, requirements for soil testing in instances where produce would be sold, the use of raised gardening beds, raising hens and associated regulations, bee keeping as a hobby, construction and removal of hoop houses, the effect of absentee landlords and the table of uses.

Chairman White suggested matching the noise ordinance with respect to the operation of farm equipment and noted his concern with africanization of neighborhood colonies of bees.

The committee asked that certain provisions be revised in both the ordinance and in the accompanying Board of Health regulations, and the discussion of these items will be continued at the next Land Use Committee meeting on August 15th.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

193388 - League of Urban Cannors submitting comments re: #192922, the Urban Agriculture Ordinance.:

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

193485 - Planning Board submitting a recommendation re: #192922, a proposed Zoning Ordinance to encourage urban agriculture.:

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**