

From: [Mara Flanagan](#)
To: [Jennifer Christy](#); [Tim Carroll](#)
Cc: [Amy Weinberg](#); [Lauren Lynch](#)
Subject: Fwd: Sagra Series 2024
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024 4:42:14 PM
Attachments: [Commonwealth Memo on Agritourism_BBF CHECKLIST.pdf](#)
[Beetlebung Farm Sagra 2024.pdf](#)

Good afternoon Jennifer and Tim,
We submitted the below email with attachments to Adam Petkus today.
We've been trying to keep the Select Board, the Planning Board and Town Counsel in the loop on our conversations and meetings.
With this in mind, can you please forward to board members of both boards and to town counsel.
Many thanks for all that you do,
Mara and the Beetlebung Farm Team

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mara Flanagan** <mara@beetlebungfarm.org>
Date: Thu, Feb 22, 2024 at 2:00 PM
Subject: Sagra Series 2024
To: Adam Petkus Jr. <buildinginspector@chilmarkma.gov>
Cc: Amy Weinberg <amy@beetlebungfarm.org>, Lauren Lynch <ed@mvagsoc.org>

Dear Adam,

We are asking for a special permit - or one year trial - for the following farm activity: a Sagra dinner series on our farm.

We view these gatherings as a direct way to sell through significant farm products and provide an educational experience to build customer loyalty and support for small scale regenerative farming.

We know, in the past, dinners have been viewed as a commercial activity. We hope given our recent work with the Planning Board as well as guidance from the MA Land Court ruling that all "*agriculture conducted for profit is commercial to some degree*" (*Cumberland, 359 Mass. at 76, and Prime v. Zoning Bd. of Appeals, 42 Mass. App. Ct. 796*) that you will support our request.

We feel that our Sagra gatherings, as explained in the attachment, are in line with M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 3 activities and also in line with MDAR's approved agricultural agritourism activities, as explained in the attached MDAR Law memo. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Winton Pitcoff, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Deputy Commissioner / Legislative and Policy Director at 857-262-2096 or Winton.Pitcoff2@mass.gov.

Many thanks,
Mara and the Beetlebung Farm Team