

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION WORK GROUP MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2007

1. **Attendance:** Tom Dernoga, Marilynn Bland, Boyd Campbell, Daniel Filippelli, Debra Naylor, William Moore, Richard Krueger,

2. **Meeting Agenda:**

I. **Approval of Minutes (June 6)**

Minutes approved.

II. **Agricultural Policies**

Yates Clagett of the Soil Conservation District (SCD) discussed a handout prepared by SCD on “Proposed Policies for Keeping Agriculture Viable in Prince George’s County”. Mr. Clagett explained that these policies represent a cohesive group of changes that could be made to existing County policies, rules, and procedures which would be helpful in promoting agriculture in the County.

In discussion of the need to further define “agricultural operation”, the Work Group discussed the need to get a list of uses that require use and occupancy permits from the Department of Environmental Resources. Chair Dernoga informed the members that the Zoning Ordinance currently defines “wayside stand” and permits the use as a temporary permit under specific conditions.

Council Member Bland indicated the need to be cautious in what is allowed to be sold at stands that may be considered “agricultural operations” due to issues previously raised by mobile vendors who are no longer allowed to sell their products in certain places in the County. Boyd Campbell expressed similar concerns and recommended that the group be cognizant of rules catering to one tier of the County and the need to look at the Developing and Developed Tiers as well when considering these uses.

Under “Agrotourism”, a policy to exempt certified agrotourism operations from the County Amusement Tax (presently 10% of gross receipts) is proposed. Chair Dernoga requested that Mr. Clagett obtain additional information on a State bill which had proposed this exemption, but failed.

CB-24-2007

Chair Dernoga distributed copies of “Draft” Historic Agricultural Resource Preservation Program regulations. CB-24-2007, scheduled for public hearing on July 24, 2007, establishes the program; however, regulations for administration of the program must also be adopted similar to the process establishing the Purchase of Development Rights program.

Chair Dernoga commented that CB-24-2007 is an interim measure in the County’s agricultural preservation efforts until such time as the State legislation is adopted to authorize M-NCPPC to use funds for agricultural preservation and to use certain funds outside of the Metropolitan District.

Handouts:

“Great American Agriculture”, Volume One, Number One, Southern Edition (submitted by Yates Clagett)

Flyer announcing Subregion VI Agricultural “Listening Session”
Wednesday, July 25 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Baden Fire House
(submitted by Betty Carlson-Jameson, Park and Planning)

“Agricultural Preservation in Prince George’s County” Thoughts of
W. Gordon Gemeny (submitted by Mr. Gemeny)

Announcements:

Council Member Bland extended an invitation to everyone present to attend the District 9 Rural Tier Tour, Saturday July 28, 2007 Time: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Buses leave from County Administration Building, contact Ebonee Avery to RSVP.

3. **Next Meeting:** July 25, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.
4. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

