



Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes February 2, 2021

Opening

The meeting of the Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board was called to order at 7:00pm on February 2, 2021 at 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland 21014.

Board Attendees

John Stump, Megan McMillian, Jim Morris, Jackie Smithson,

Jeff Holloway was unable to attend.

Staff: Bill Amoss & Jen Wilson

New Business

- Mr. Amoss welcomed new members and gave a broad overview of the programs and how the Department works. He reviewed the ranking system, the three (3) pricing methods, and the Board's role in reviewing the applications.
- An application has been submitted by Leslie Martin on Conowingo Road. The application includes one (1) parcel of approximately 45 acres and three (3) additional development rights available for purchase. Board members discussed the current usage of the property, hardship considerations, and possible points to be awarded. The Board awarded their discretionary points as listed below.
 - Contribution to Ag 5 points (moderate contribution)
 - Special Conditions: 10 points (hardship consideration)

Mr. Morris made a motion to award the points as listed, and Ms. Smithson seconded. The motion passed. The farm will be added to the ranking for 2021 applications.

- The Board reviewed all current easement applications and the points previously awarded by the Board. For each application the Board discussed possible points and reasons for awarding them. Mr. Morris motioned to maintain the points as previously awarded for all applications. Ms. McMillian seconded. The motion passed.

- The Board reviewed a request for a Hunt Club overlay easement across the Turney McKnight property currently under a MALPF easement. The MALPF easement is being amended to include an additional parcel and must also be amended to permit the existing Hunt Club easement. Mr. Morris motioned to approve the overlay easement. Ms. Smithson seconded. The motion passed.
- The Board reviewed a request by Larry Johnson to place a tenant home on his farm under a MALPF easement. The Board reviewed the proposed location and need for having a tenant on-site. Ms. McMillian made a motion to approve the request, and Ms. Smithson seconded. The motion passed.
- Mr. Amoss updated the Board on the status of MALPF program. The FY2019 offers have all settled. FY20 offers are also completing settlements. Appraisals for the FY21 applications are being completed and expected from the state within the next month.
- Mr. Amoss updated the Board on the Rural Legacy program. The easement on the Alexander farm just settled and two (2) more proposed easements are being prepared for review by DNR.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm