

**BARRY GLASSMAN**  
HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING

## Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes  
**April 7, 2020**

### **Opening**

The meeting of the Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board was called to order at 6:00pm on April 7, 2020 via conference call.

### **Board Attendees**

Jeff Holloway, Dave Dougherty and John Stump

David Keyes and Zach Rose were unable to attend.

Staff: Bill Amoss & Jen Wilson

Guests: Raine Archer

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved the minutes from the February 4, 2020 meeting.

### **New Business**

- The Board reviewed a request presented by Raine Archer to conduct week-long experiences for students on their 47-acre farm under a MALPF easement. The experiences, called Farming Me™ are similar to a day-camp and would focus on educating students about agriculture. Students are dropped off by parents daily for activities from 9:00-3:00. Mrs. Archer estimates they use about 20 acres of the farm to conduct the activities in the existing buildings and via wagon tours. The Board agreed the proposed use falls under Ag-Tourism and asked if the Archer's had adequate liability protection. Following the presentation, the Board approved the request.
- Mr. Amoss reviewed with the Board proposed County Legislation that will make changes to the Harford County Agricultural Land Preservation Program by updating code references, removing ambiguous language under the size criteria, and changing the scoring criteria as outlined in the proposed Bill, attached. The Board had no additional questions or discussion. A motion to support the legislation as drafted was approved.
- Mr. Amoss presented a request from the estate of Mr. & Mrs. Pennington to create a child lot for their daughter, Lily, under a HALPP easement. The parcel is 25 acres and is located on

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Thomas Run Road. The proposed lot will be less than 2 acres in size and located around the existing dwelling near Thomas Run Road. A motion to approve the request was passed.

- Mr. Amoss presented a request by the McNutt family to create a child lot for their son, Brian on their 110 acre farm under a MALPF easement. The proposed lot will be located along Ady Road, adjacent to the child lot previously created for their daughter, Melissa. The request must be reviewed and approved by the MALPF Board as well. A motion to approve the request was passed.
- The Board reviewed and discussed multiple applications to the County program for the 2020 easement cycle. For each property, members discussed the current usage of the property, hardship considerations, and possible points. The Board awarded their discretionary points as listed below. These points will be added to the overall scoring for the properties.

<b>Owner/Property</b>	<b>Contribution to Ag (0-10 pts)</b>	<b>Special Conditions (0-10 pts)</b>
Alan Burdette, Jr	5	5
Alan Burdette, Sr	5	5
Elliott	10	10
Fielder North	10	10
Fielder South	10	10
Fielder wooded tract	5	5
Heaps 3- North	10	10
Heaps 4- South	10	10
Heaps 2	10	10
Heaps, Ann	10	10
Johnson	10	10
Maliszewski	0	0
Profili- Terra Bella	0	0
Profili	0	0
Smigaj/Garayoa	10	5
Wilson	10	10

- Mr. Amoss updated the Board on the status of MALPF 2019 & 2020 offers. With the courthouse closed to the public, boundary plats are not able to be recorded, which has caused delays in proceeding with most of the easements. The MALPF Board will be voting at an upcoming meeting on the plan for the FY 2021 application cycle. They are considering holding off applications until next year utilizing funding from both years due to the counties' limited ability to solicit applications and MALPF staff to process them. The County Board expressed concerns of the fund being raided for the Kirwan Commission or Corona virus expenses.
- Mr. Amoss updated the Board on the County & Rural Legacy programs. None of the County's 2019 offers have settled at this time. Titles were late to be sent to the surveyors, and now the courthouse is not permitting the boundary plats to be recorded. The courthouse restrictions are also preventing Rural Legacy easements from moving forward.

- Mr. Amoss review the events surrounding House Bill 1362, which was eventually withdrawn. He thanked all of those who called their legislators and had been ready to travel to Annapolis to testify against the Bill that proposed removing funding from the County program.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm