

Agriculture and Open Space Committee Meeting
February 22, 2010

Present:

Bill O'Neill, Town Board Liaison
Mary Ann Johnson, co-chair
Larry Thetford, co-chair
Ken Migliorelli
Norman Greig
Richie Byszczinski
Karen Schneller-MacDonald
Pete Hubbell
KayCee Wimbish, Committee Clerk

A.

1. Review January 25, 2010 Minutes and Approve

January Minutes approved unanimously.

2. Review ABD Draft Survey Trial Results

The survey was shown to a few landowners and the feedback given was used to make some final adjustments to the survey. Lindsey made some changes and the Intermunicipal Task Force made some changes. After reviewing the updated survey, **Norman moved to distribute the survey as amended, with the text box cleaned up and it made clear that the name and address was only needed if the respondents requested a meeting. Mary Ann seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Once the surveys are returned, the committee will determine how best to schedule meetings with landowners who have requested to meet in person.

3. Finalize ABD Survey and Plan Course of Action

The committee decided that surveys should be hand delivered to landowners who live locally. Out of town landowners will receive their surveys by mail. When multiple family members own a piece of property, a survey will be given to each family member in order to get all ideas and opinions. Committee members volunteered to deliver surveys to specific landowners. Karen and Larry will be responsible for mailing the surveys to those landowners who live out of town.

Committee members will attempt two deliveries to landowners in person. If two attempts are made and no one is home, the survey will be mailed.

The survey should go out next week or the week after that. The Committee hopes for surveys to be back at the end of March.

4. Continue ABD Zoning Discussions

The Committee decided the discussions about the zoning should remain on hold until the surveys are returned.

B. New Business

1. Correspondence from Joe Rossi

An email was sent from Joe Rossi to Mary Ann, Larry, Ken and Richie. He asked many questions about the proposed ABD zoning. Sue Crane will make the letter part of the public record and the letter was given to Michelle Greig. The Environmental Impact Statement will include responses to the questions brought up in this letter. To protect the integrity of the process, it will be handled in this manner.

The town board will respond to the questions in the letter.

Mary Ann will talk to Joe Rossi and explain to him how his letter is being responded to by the town board.

2. Central Hudson Property

The Committee discussed the Central Hudson property that cuts through the Greig, Dubin, and Linden properties from Route 9 to Guski Road.

It was decided that the committee should make a recommendation to the Town Board about the property.

Motion: Committee recommends the town pursue the purchase of the Central Hudson property to preserve the integrity of the farms that it affects, to minimize serious conflicts if developed and pursue the creation of a public trail.

Bill will make the recommendation at the Wednesday Town Board meeting.

Motion seconded and passed.

Motion approved unanimously.

Committee supported Norman's suggestion that the town should buy the property, donate it to a land trust, build a public trail, and then sell it back to the farmers.

C. Date and Time of Next meeting

March 29nd at 7 pm

Meeting Adjourned