

MINUTES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE
Suffolk County Planning Department

Date: September 18, 2007

Members Present: Bennett Orłowski, Jr. (At-Large), Chairman
Thomas A. Isles, Suffolk County Dept. of Planning Director (At-Large)
Lee Foster (Southampton)
Alfred J. Kilb, Jr. (Shelter Island)
Charlie Scheer (At-Large)
Mark Zaweski (At-Large)
Dale Moyer (At-Large)
Albert Schmitt (At-Large)
Joseph Krukowski (Southold)
Ronald Bush (At-Large)

County Staff Present: Janet Longo, Suffolk County Div. of Real Estate
Robert Zaher, Suffolk County Div. of Real Estate
Chris Kent, Suffolk County Div. of Real Estate
Roy Fedelem, Suffolk County Dept. of Planning
Jenny Kohn, Suffolk County Department of Law

Guests: Robert Nolan, President, Long Island Farm Bureau
Melissa Spiro
John Turner
Dave Klenawicus
Joseph Klenawicus
Jim McNamara
Pat McNamara
Joan Lademann
John M. Lademann
Libby Tarleton
Richard O'Dea
Steven Mezynieski
Gretchen Meznieski
Annmarie Purdenti
Gail Wickham
Paulette Satur
E. Muller
Joanne Schmitt

Members Absent: Nate Corwin (At-Large)
Olney M. Gardiner (East Hampton)
Eugene Murphy (Islip)
Dan Fricke (At-Large)
Russell Barnett (Smithtown)
Jeffrey Rottkamp (Riverhead)

Chairman Orlowski called the Special Meeting of the Suffolk County Farmland Committee to order at 6:04 p.m. at the L.I. Horticulture Research & Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY.

WOELFFER: WINE STORAGE IN EXISTING BUILDING OR NEW BUILDING FOR EQUIPMENT STORAGE

The distributed packets contained information from Ag & Markets showing their position on wineries, wine storage and tasting rooms. An opinion from the County Attorney's office still has not been received. Construction of barn approved at the July 24, 2007 meeting, to be finalized with the result of a review.

TOM Mc GUNNIGLE – PERMISSION TO EXPAND A HOUSE

Mr. McGunnigle needed permission to expand a house and to make it handicapped accessible. Jenny Kohn, Attorney for Suffolk County told the Committee that no final opinion has been reached yet.

DISCUSSION ON GREENHOUSES

John Turner spoke to the Committee on behalf of Supervisor, Brian Foley. He requested postponing making any decisions until Brookhaven Town could review and make comments. Mark Zaweski asked what the cut-off date was for submission of comments. A greenhouse sub-committee meeting was set up for October 17, 2007 at 5:00 at the L.I. Horticultural Research and Extension Center. All comments should be submitted by then.

PAULETTE SATUR, GREENHOUSES & REFRIGERATED BUILDING

Ms. Satur is requesting permission to put up new greenhouses (14.75 ft. tall) with cement pilings and one walkway 252 ft. x 3 ft. (the old greenhouses would come down) and a refrigerated building built in that area. Some leveling would be necessary but no removal of soil will be involved. The existing trailers can be moved after greenhouses are built and old ones torn down. All should be completed by the fall of 2008. Ms. Satur said the trailers could be shifted and her husband, Mr. Mueller, said the trailers could be moved after the greenhouses are taken down. Ms. Satur stated that less than 5% of their products come from Arizona.

Mr. McNamara (a neighbor) complained about the fumes from the diesel engines and questioned where the trailers will be moved to.

Mr. Adams told the Committee that they cannot rent their house because of the diesel fumes.

A motion for a SEQRA determination Type II Action was made by Chairman Orlowski and seconded by Joseph Kukowski. Motion carried. 10-0-0. A motion was made by Charles Scheer to approve the greenhouses only, along with a concrete pad for the boiler & fuel storage, with the provision that Allan Connell's office sign off on it and with the understanding that the old greenhouses be taken down and the trailers relocated. All subject to Town of Southold approval. A motion for approval was made by Charles Scheer and seconded by Albert Kilb. Motion carried 10-0-0. Ms. Satur will return at a later date with a site plan for the barn.

STEVE MEZNIESKI – PERMISSION TO REBUILD A HOUSE ON THE FORMER ZIMMER PROPERTY

Mr. & Mrs. Meznieski requested permission to build a house on the original footprint. He is in possession of an old letter giving him permission. The Committee agreed that a house could be built on the original footprint only. Mr. Meznieski agreed to have a survey done and present it to the Farmland Committee.

Lee Foster reported on the former Heibut property. She stated that there is no way that the driveway (on Scuttle Hole Rd.) could have been used for construction equipment.

NEW PARCELS

Jason Cellars- 23 acres located in Jamesport in the Town of Riverhead scored 11 by the Farmland Committee. **A motion for approval was made by Dale Moyer and seconded by Charles Scheer. Motion carried. 10-0-0.**

Hobbs Farm- 1 acres located in Centereach in the Town of Brookhaven scored 7 by the Committee. **A motion for disapproval was made by Mark Zaweski and seconded by Albert Schmitt. Motion carried. 10-0-0.**

Calverton Properties – 115.1 acres located in Calverton in the Town of Riverhead scored 13 by the Committee. **Tabled.**

Barry Bergman – 6 acres located in Medford in the Town of Brookhaven scored 1 by the Committee. **A motion for disapproval was made by Charles Scheer and seconded by Albert Kilb. Motion carried. 10-0-0.**

Previously tabled at the 7/24/07 Farmland Committee Meeting the following had no action taken:

Lomangino – 51.7 acres located in Mattituck in the Town of Southold scored 9 by the Committee.

Sutherland, Don – 8.8 acres located in the Town of Brookhaven scored 10 by the Committee.

DiBernardi, Peter – 14.9 acres located in Calverton in the Town of Riverhead scored 9 by the Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ron Bush was concerned about the situation on Scuttle Hole Road and the potential for PDR properties not being farmed in the future.

Ed Ernst of Mill Creek Farm in Southold wants to do repair work on his existing old barns. Chairman Orłowski suggested that the Farmland Committee send Mr. Ernst a letter explaining that the repair work is not a problem, but he cannot exceed the footprint or height requirements.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Krukowski and seconded by Charles Scheer at 7:45 P.M. Motion carried. 10-0-0.

Next REGULAR Meeting: October 23, 2007 at 6:00 P.M. at the L.I. Horticultural Research & Extension Center, Riverhead, NY