



John K. Parlett, Jr., Chairman
David Paulk, Vice Chairman

Phil Dorsey
James "Bubby" Norris

Adam Dyson
Michael Sirk

Robert Jarboe
James Spence

James Moore
Joseph Wood

Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board

February 14, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Agricultural, Seafood, and Forestry Board meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center. Members in attendance were John Parlett, David Paulk, Phil Dorsey, Adam Dyson, Robert Jarboe, James Moore, Michael Sirk, James Spence, and Joseph Wood. Also present were Bruce Young and Tom Koviak from the St. Mary's Soil Conservation District, Ben Beale from the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service and Donna Sasscer and Lisa Ledman from the St. Mary's County's Economic Development Department. Members not in attendance included James Norris. The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. Attendance was called and it was confirmed that there were enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes from the December 12, 2012 meeting and Notes from the January 10, 2013 meeting were presented and unanimously approved by the Board.

Old Business

Agriculture Services Center – Mr. Parlett abstained from any discussion and votes in regards to the Agriculture Services Center. The County's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget has been submitted. The Board voted unanimously to send a letter to the Board of County Commissioners supporting the move of Maryland Cooperative Extension and County's Department of Economic and Community Development's Agriculture Division. The Board would also like to recommend that the funds be turned over to the Soil Conservation District for the completion of the build out (3,500 sqft). Mr. Paulk will draft a letter including inputs from Mr. Young and Mr. Beale.

New Business

Ms. Kantor submitted a letter of resignation. The Board wishes her well on her future endeavors into motherhood. Ms. Ledman will forward an application to join the Board to Tucker Grube.

The Board unanimously elected Mr. Parlett to the position of Chairman of the Agricultural, Seafood and Forestry Board and Mr. Paulk to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Agricultural, Seafood and Forestry Board for 2013.

Sub-Committee Reports

Farmers Markets Sub-Committee

Members – Joseph Wood (Chairman), James Moore (Vice Chair), David Paulk

The Farmers Market Sub-Committee met and discussed the location of current markets and it was determined that there should be a market located in the central portion of the county, Leonardtown area with a focus on where the development is occurring to make it easily assessable by the community. Suggested locations were to begin at the fairgrounds since it is county owned property but to look to move to a location like the Clarke or Hayden farms to serve the communities currently being developed. Mr. Parlett suggested space at the Governmental Center and Mr. Dorsey said that there are several green spaces in the town of Leonardtown that would serve as an ideal location for a market. The Board agreed that any market location would need the favor of the Town of Leonardtown. Mr. Wood also briefed the Board on efforts currently underway to address the market in Charlotte Hall, Ms. Sasscer will be meeting with representatives from Charles County to explore options of a regional market.

Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board

Members – James Spence (Chairman), James Moore (Vice Chair), Adam Dyson, David Paulk, Joseph Wood

Members for the Agriculture Land Preservation Advisory Board were selected. The Board will meet on an as needed basis.

Agricultural Reconciliation Committee

Members – Robert Jarboe (Chairman), Michael Sirk (Vice Chair), Phil Dorsey, Adam Dyson, & James “Bubby” Norris

NONE.

Open Comment

Farm Bureau will be sending out a survey on its equipment rental program. They would like to know what new equipment is needed/wanted in the community and also to promote the program and what is currently available for use.

Mr. Paulk would like to see additional resources for the new farmer – a representative from the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission will be invited to the next meeting to brief the Board on programs that currently exist.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2013 at noon in the Conference Room of the Agriculture Services Center.