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Director of Planning & Zoning

Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes
April 4th, 2023

Opening

The meeting of the Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board was called to order at 7:00pm on April 4th, 2023 at 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland 21014.

Board Attendees

Jeff Holloway, Jaclyn Smithson, Megan McMillian and John Stump

Staff: Bill Amoss

Approval of Minutes

Megan McMillian moved to approve minutes from the March 7th meeting with Jeff Holloway. The minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business

- The Board reviewed a request from Enfield family for allowing up to six school buses on their county easement farm for bus contractor Robert Livezey at 724 Highland Road in Street. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 5:30 am to 5:30 pm when Harford County Public schools are in session. There are also 6 parking spots for drivers, portable toilet and 500-gallon fuel tank in the designated area. Cindy Poteet (one of the family owners) was present and answered any further questions the board had. Jeff Holloway moved to approve the request. Megan McMillian seconded. The motion passed. Landowners will now request approval thru county SD code approvals thru Planning and Zoning and other county agencies.
- The Board reviewed a request from Dave Button for the movement of already approved child lot for his stepson Bryan Bradford on Dave's MALPF easement farm located at 2776 Sharon Road outside Forest Hill. The new location is adjacent to his daughter's child lot previously approved several years ago. Board members questions centered around open ground around lot that will remain under easement but between lots and would it be continued to be farmed or by default be turned into lawn. Dave assured that it would be continued to be farmed and the location was dictated by septic and driveway layout. Megan McMillian made a motion to approve the requested location, and Jaclyn Smithson seconded. The motion passed. Request package with county board approval letter will be forward to MALPF for their review and State board approval.

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- The Board reviewed three requests for retroactive violation approval from Bob and Sandy Magness on their MALPF easement farm located at 2012 White House Road, outside of Hickory. First request is for approval for relocation and reconstruction of a pre-existing dwelling and noted as the dwelling for their daughter Michele and labeled as dwelling # 1 on the presented aerial map and shall be noted as non-subdividable. Second request was noted that dwelling # 2 is for their son John which was also relocated but previously approved by board and MALPF but just needs to be dedicated non-subdividable. The third request is for the retroactive approval of a non-subdividable lot for the owners Bob and Sandy Magness as noted as dwelling # 3 on map. Landowners are preparing a required 1-acre surveyed area to submit to MALPF along with all required permits for the home construction from various agencies. Megan McMillian made a motion to approve the request and Jeff Holloway seconded. The motion passed. Request package with county board approval letter will be forwarded to MALPF for their review and State board approval.
- The Board reviewed a request from George Dawson to construct a home on county easement property owned by George and shown on the submitted map which also showed the tree clearing required for the home construction and septic field installation along with clearing for farmstead activity in the future. Jeff Holloway moved to approve the request. Jackie Smithson seconded. The motion passed.
- Bill Amoss updated the Board on the status of MALPF 2021 offers, with one remaining for settlement (Crouse), FY2022 easements are getting close to start some settlements, and FY2023 offers just went out to landowners and we are answering their questions as we are going over offers with them.
- Bill Amoss updated the Board on the County program progress and shared success at the hearing on the next 12 farms on the ranked list to the County Council for approval. Vote is to be held that night (all approved). Updated group on legislative update progress and Jackie Smithson also briefed board on latest council workgroup meeting. We will continue to work with all on updates to program thru outreach meetings, administration and council meetings and keep board informed of progress.
- Bill Amoss updated the Board on the Rural Legacy Program that Jenn Wilson was meeting with landowners on committing the newly awarded funds for easement purchases. Majors has settled and Shrodes property is next.

Adjournment