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Director of Planning & Zoning

Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes
June 6th, 2023

Opening

The meeting of the Harford County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board was called to order at 7:00pm on June 6th, 2023 at 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland 21014.

Board Attendees

Jeff Holloway, Jaclyn Smithson, and Megan McMillian

Staff: Bill Amoss

Approval of Minutes

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

New Business

- The Board reviewed a request from Gene Worthington to build a tenant home on his farm at 314 Quaker Bottom Road, HDG (county easement). There was a tenant trailer home years ago but was removed when the main home was rebuilt. Due to age, he is requesting a new tenant home for someone to help in the farm operation, to be constructed at the corner of the farm. Jeff Holloway motioned to approve the request. Megan McMillian seconded. The motion passed.
- The Board reviewed a request from the Comer family to Ag subdivide their family farm off Jolly Acres Road, White Hall (MALPF easement) into to three separate properties. The request was tabled due to the unique separation of boundary lines being proposed by the family versus current MALPF policy on ag subdivisions. Bd recommended Bill/Jenn to discuss with the MALPF Executive Director and their input to options available thru MALPF policy. Megan McMillian made a motion to table review until July and Jaclyn Smithson seconded. The motion passed. Bill/Jenn will discuss with MALPF prior to July bd meeting and with landowner to bring forward suggested proposal.
- The Board reviewed a request from the Schwartz family, they have bought a county easement farm from his sister at 711-Wheeler School Road, Pylesville and would like to absorb most of the farm into their adjoining non-easement farm and then sell off the current home. The request was tabled to discuss with current administration prior to July board meeting for policy clarification on acreage required to remain with home, all of which would still be under the easement. Bill/Jenn will meet with administration and report back to board at July meeting. Megan McMillian made a motion to approve the request and Jeff Holloway seconded. The motion passed.

- The Board reviewed a request from the Kern family for relocating a pre-existing dwelling (MALPF easement) at 2450 Winters Run Road Joppa. The family will construct a new family home on the other side of the farm off Clayton Road and the current home will be demolished. Jeff Holloway moved to approve the request. Jackie Smithson seconded. The motion passed.
- Bill updated the Board on the status of MALPF 2021 offers, with one remaining for settlement (Crouse), FY2022 easements have started settlements and FY2023 offers went out to landowners and we are answering their questions as we are going over offers with them.
- Bill updated the Board on the County program progress and settlements are soon to start. Waiting for meeting times with council members this summer on legislative changes this fall.
- Bill updated the Board on the Rural Legacy Program that Jenn Wilson is working on.

Adjournment