

FARM BREWERY STUDY GROUP

August 25, 2021

Minutes

10:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by Councilman Robert Wagner at 10:00 AM.

Membership – All members attended except Mr. Lawder (prior notice of absence).

- Council Members
 - Robert Wagner
 - Tony Giangiordano
- Representative of Harford County Sheriff's Office
 - Erik Robey
- Member of the Farm Bureau
 - Michele Magness Hill
- Member of the Farming Community
 - Alice Archer
- Representative, Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning
 - Jenny Jarkowski, Director
- Representative, Harford County Inspections, Licenses & Permits
 - Paul Lawder, Director
- Representatives of the Farm Brewery Industry
 - Kevin Atticks – Executive Director, Brewers Association of Maryland
 - Alex Galbreath – President, Falling Branch Brewery

A preliminary presentation was submitted to the County Council on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, by Councilman Wagner on behalf of the Study Group.

Final discussions before drafting of legislation:

- Would be interested to learn more about the agricultural/farming of breweries approved to operate on a much smaller footprint (acreage) in other jurisdictions.
- Parking – discussed whether to elaborate as to “onsite” and “offsite” provision; should shuttles to another location be considered?
- Harford County Health Department (John Resline) - Outside of well and septic, HCHD has no regulating authority for farm breweries unless “open food” items are added.
- Food trucks are licensed and inspected by the Harford County Health Department.
- Minimum product brewed onsite was discussed

- A variance or special exception may be requested in the event the standards cannot be met.

Councilman Wagner expressed his gratitude to the group for their time and diligence.

The draft legislation will be introduced at a future Council meeting. Public hearing will be held to consider feedback.

Adjourned at 11:10 AM