

AGRICULTURE

June 16, 2008

PRESENT:

Jesse DeGrootd - Chairperson
Elizabeth Young
Tom Dias
Ray Staats
Reggie Crowley
Val Bertram
Lynda Scheer
Larry Andrews

ABSENT:

Leo Pulcher-notified

PRESS:

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ALSO PRESENT:

Melissa Noblin, Deputy
Roland Vosburgh
Mrs. Dunbar
Mr. Dunbar
Malory Mort
Todd Erling
Jim Waterhouse
Larry Benson
Suzette Booy
Phil Williams

Chairman DeGrootd called meeting to order at 5:31 p.m..

M. Dunbar distributed Farmland Protection Board information and discussed specifics of same.

R.Vosburgh addressed the Committee regarding ag district review summary and process for same. Lengthy discussion took place regarding agricultural trends and the need to preserve agricultural lands.

M. Dunbar was presented the top five priorities of the Board as follows:

1. Inventory of all agricultural land, Town by Town.
2. Education of agencies, County and Town officials, realtors and public regarding Ag law.
3. Speaker program to educate students on agriculture, which is no longer taught in the schools.
4. G.I.S.
5. Acknowledgement of favorable acts done in agriculture.

A keep farming initiative, local food procurement process, and the Hudson Valley ag partnership were all briefly addressed.

L. Scheer stated that she would like to see better education regarding agribusiness vs. agriculture.

The Glynwood Center Proposed County-wide Keep Farming Project proposal was addressed and the Farmland Protection Board's proposal was distributed for review.

Motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. made by T. Dias and seconded by E. Young, motion carried.

Jesse DeGrootd-Chairman

Tom Dias

Ray Staats

Reggie Crowley

Leo Pulcher

Elizabeth Young

Lawrence Andrews

Valarie Bertram

Lynda Scheer