

FARMLAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

CRITERIA SUBCOMMITTEE

Draft Minutes – May 19, 2009 Meeting

I. Call to Order: Chairman John Guskowski called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. at CT Farm Bureau in Windsor.

Members present: John Guskowski, Norma O'Leary

Others present: J.Dippel, George Krivda, Jr., Katherine Winslow, Elisabeth Moore, Bill Duesing, Kip Kolesinskas

II. Review and Approval of January 27, 2009 minutes: The minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus of the group(Guskowski/group consensus; O'Leary abstained).

III. Old Business:

1. Results of Land Evaluation and Site Assessment review of small farms applications: Dippel and Winslow met with Kolesinskas to score some potential small farms using LESA and found the results to be comparable and for the most part directly proportional to DoAg's scores using the draft criteria for the Community Farms Preservation Program.

2. Legislative update (Substitute House Bill No. 6659): This bill (handout) involves a technical change requiring the DoAg to adopt regulations for the new Community Farms Preservation Program under subsection (c). Subsection (a) was discussed at length as the original intent of the legislation was to provide a program for both small farms and locally important farms. DoAg would like farms that score low, and are low priorities for funding, in the existing Farmland Preservation Program to be considered for the Community Farms Preservation Program. This item shall be brought before the Farmland Preservation Advisory Board at its June 1, 2009 meeting.

3. Review of revised draft Community Farms Preservation Program scoring criteria and regulations: Dippel and Winslow provided a copy of the revised version of the Draft Community Farms Score Sheet and discussed each change made based on comments at the last meeting and field trip. The revised criteria will be tested using sample small farms. Comments are welcomed. When complete, the criteria will be inserted into the draft regulations.

4. Other: A field trip to Enfield and Somers shall follow the meeting.

IV. New Business: No new business discussed.

V. Schedule Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Criteria subcommittee was scheduled for June 29, 2009 at 9:30am at the CT Farm Bureau in Windsor.

VI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am (Guszkowski/O'Leary).

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Katherine Winslow on May 29, 2009