

ABC Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2023, 7 pm @ Milkhouse Brewery

Frederick County Office of Economic Development

Council Members in attendance: Tom Mullineaux, Tom Barse, Tim Pry, Gary Grossnickle, Brian Sweeney, Bob Black, Katie Stevens, Becca Tucker

Tom M determined quorum and called the meeting to order

Agritourism Enterprise – Katie:

- Issues- Fireworks, traffic (safety issue), parking, occupancy, apple cannons firing at metal, food, alcohol that is not farm based, etc, Health Department really cracking down.
- ABC members discussed the huge economic impact for the county
 - This proposed bill is anti ag business
- Think about the industry as a whole- how do we keep the industry as a whole thriving? Small work group? Input from industry representatives
 - Who will this affect? This could kill all agritourism in Frederick County. Farmers will not stay here and continue business operations here. They will go to other counties or adjacent states. Tourism industry will suffer- \$ will go elsewhere. Huge Economic Impact to the County
- Noise Ordinance to be enforced by sheriff's office, nuisance laws, other means to control with laws that already exist

Tim Pry made a motion that ABC is not in support of this bill and this bill should be withdrawn.

Gary 2nd the motion, no discussion. Motion passes unanimously.

Tom B made a motion that once this bill is withdrawn, ABC recommends that a work group is put together to examine all issues of agritourism with industry representatives.

Gary 2nd the motion, no discussion. Motion passes unanimously.

Maryland Nutrient Management- Tom M :

I met with Secretary of Agriculture Atticks on Monday 3-13.

We had a lengthy discussion regarding many aspects of Maryland agriculture but mostly about Frederick County. Here is my take away from our meeting.

Regarding Nutrient Management Plans: He stated that no person with a legitimate claim to any MDA program payment will go unpaid because they do not have a Nutrient Management plan in effect on their farm. "Period"

He further stated that the land owner has to take the first step. Meaning that the land owner should contact the Frederick County Extension office and let them know the status of you request for a Nutrient management Plan

Have you been waiting ? How long? When can I expect action?

If you don't get a satisfactory answer, call Hans Schmidt 410-490-7294

We all need to fully understand that this fall will be handled with a 'BandAid'

We will get each and every issue resolved even if we have to bend the rules.

These issues didn't come all at once, they've been building. We can't fix them over night.

The Secretary, Hans, Dwight Dotterer, The UMD Dean and the New Director of Extension are meeting next week to decide on and set in motion the solution and the Plan for the future.

Tom M adjourned meeting

Next Meeting: April 25, 7pm, Catocin Mountain Orchard