

**Minutes of the Agriculture and Open Space Advisory Committee  
October, 2006**

October 16, 2006

Present: Ken Miglorelli, Larry Thetford, Beth Mead, Craig Vogel, Mary Ann Johnson, Robert McKeon, Miriam Latzer

Absent: Richard Biezinski

Agenda: Agriculture Reserve

The committee reviewed again the study area for the agriculture reserve area designation. Using the selected criteria we proceeded to review each parcel that might be eligible. In our deliberations we consulted all of the available mapping; these included the maps by County Planning that illustrated parcels that were being actively used for farming, those that lie within the Agricultural District and those that possess soils of statewide importance and prime soils. The committee referred to slopes and wetlands mapping with the assistance of Mary Ann's GIS computer system. We utilized aerial mapping from 2000, 2004, 1936 as well as the historic maps from the 1920's and 1850's showing the locations of the farmlands.

After reviewing each property the committee took a vote on whether it should be included in a recommendation of establishing an Agricultural Reserve area. The members endorsed this revised version and decided to present it to the Intramunicipal Task Force for consideration.

October 26, 2006

The committee met with Michele Greig to discuss various options in agricultural zoning to encourage the continuance of farm operations. More permissive language could make it easier for farmers to attract business by allowing additional as of right uses on lands within any proposed agricultural reserve area.

Planning Board referral: The committee reviewed the Hanson development proposal. It was decided that a more extensive review at our next meeting would be necessary before we could provide a response to the Planning Board.

