

**Minutes for the Agriculture & Open Space Advisory
Committee
January 18,2007**

Present: Miriam Latzer, Sue Crane, Mary Ann Johnson, Rich Biezynski, Kenny Migliorelli, Beth Mead, Larry Thetford, Robert McKeon and Elizabeth Wilkins

I. Planning Board Referrals

Hourihan Property

(Robert McKeon was not present for this discussion)

All members went through the Planning Board Application Review. Mary Ann will submit the response to the Planning Board stating that any housing should happen away from active farmland. The committee believes that the plan is incomplete as presented.

Kiesicke Property

The committee reviewed the Farmland Protect. Plan and unanimously recommended against its' approval while some of the housing is clustered near Forest Park, many potential home sites are scattered throughout the fields. In addition, driveways are indicated to dissect valuable soils.

The original suggestion was that all lots could be clustered near the pond. The new plan does not reflect this suggestion. Several members questioned emergency exits in the cul de sac. All members filled out the PB Application Review. It was noted that there are lots of flag lots and a horseshoe drive through a heavily clustered area.

II. Community Preservation Act

There was discussion about the status and a potential referendum date. Sue offered to reach out to other Town Board members to find some resolution.

III. Farm to School

Several committee members reported back about a Farm to School Forum hosted by the NDA at the Elmendorph on Jan. 11, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to identify steps that could be taken to increase the purchase of local foods in our schools.

Northern Dutchess Alliance hosted a Farm to School forum at the Elmendorph on January 11. Red Hook is most definitely leading the way in purchasing local foods for our students and continues to expand purchasing power this coming school year. Many school districts and farmers were present, making this a highly successful event.

IV. Keep Farming

The committee discussed the status of the various surveys and the timeframe for collecting the data within the period. The Keep Farming CAP is going to host a gathering at the Elmendorph on Friday, February 2 at 6pm; the purpose of which would include distributing the aforementioned survey and merely to gather.