

**AGRICULTURE AND OPEN SPACE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes - March 31, 2008

Members Present: Rich Biezynski, Larry Thetford, Robert McKeon, Ken Miglorelli,
Elizabeth Wilkins, Mary Ann Johnson, Pete Hubbell, Beth Mead, Miriam
Lutzer

Minutes taken by: Elizabeth Wilkins
Meeting Time: 6:00pm

Farmland Protection: It was reported that the Northern Dutchess Assemblage was approved by the Town Board and could now move towards closing in the next few months. There was little movement in the Wil-Hi and Mead Orchard projects since our last meeting.

The discussion continued on the West Kerley Corners parcels; the committee reviewed each parcel with the criteria of the various programs. After much discussion it was determined that the Bulkeley farm would be an ideal candidate for a Dutchess County application as it met an overwhelmingly number of their criteria. The committee had previously determined that Northwind Farm should be a strong candidate for state funds and that an application should be suggested to the owners. Members determined that the Trezza farm could also be a strong application to the County given its location, resource and impact.

Marketing: The committee reviewed a couple of possible grant opportunities to help fund the production and design costs for a new farm brochure. It was determined that we should consider making an application to the Berkshire Taconic Fund..

Community Preservation Plan - the AGOSC discussed the potential for the town to apply to the Ag & Markets for a farmland protection plan grant to cover some or all of the costs associated with developing the community preservation project plan. We discussed the fact that Greenplan had been hired to prepare Warwick's CPP, the only town in recent years to gain authorization and voter approval.

Referrals: The committee reviewed referrals to it by the Planning Board for advice.

Miscellaneous: Miriam reported on the winter markets in New Paltz and other locations. She would like to work towards coordinating something here in Red Hook.

The meeting concluded at 7:43pm.

