

May 26, 2008

MEETING MINUTES

Subject: Dairy Farm Master Plan Meeting
Date of Meeting: May 21, 2008 / Meeting #2
Location: Dairy Farm

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Mr. Rick Berger
Ms. Joan Berry
Mr. Jack Boeve
Ms. D'Alex Childers
Mr. Russell DeHart
Mr. Jeffrey Griffith
Mr. Vernon Hustead
Ms. Trish Lilek Alternate
Ms. Janet Mackey
Mr. Robert Morton
Rev. Robert Myers
Ms. Marilyn Taylor
Ms. Mary Tobin
Ms. Lina Vlavianos
Mr. Roger White
Ms. Gail Yeiser

Ex. Officio Members:

Mr. John Czajkowski
Ms. Ginger Ellis
Mr. Mike Ensor
Mr. David Myers
Ms. Janet Norman
Ms. Barbara Politio
Ms. Brenda Reiber
Ms. Karyn Molines
Mr. Rocky Glendinning

Consultants:

John Rohde Human & Rohde, Inc.
Sally Malena Human & Rohde, Inc.

Other Attendees:

Mr. & Mrs.(Marian) Ed Fry, Maryland Sunrise Farm (MSF)
Ms. Oksana Bocharova, Farm Manager, MSF
Mr. Corey Spies, Farm Manager, MSF
Mr. Ross Carrick, Odenton Heritage Society
Mr. Bill Fields, Odenton Heritage Society
Ms. Janet Reno, Odenton Heritage Society

This was the second meeting of the Dairy Farm Advisory Committee. The Committee met at the Pavilion in the Village section of the Dairy Farm. Before taking a tour of 'Hammond's Connection' the 140 acres being studied in this Master Plan effort; Karyn Molines introduced Ed and Marian Fry of Maryland Sunrise Farm who gave a brief summary of the farming operation and their activities at the Dairy Farm and also at their Farm on the Eastern Shore. They do organic grain and vegetable farming and promote agro-tourism. Their goal is to educate people on the importance of farm production. Ed Fry explained the limited term (only one year) of the Navy's lease agreements have significantly constrained Sunrise Farm in terms of the investment it is able to make in long-term, permanent improvements to the farm's physical plant and operations. Regardless of the tenant farming operation selected by the County in the future, Mr. Fry recommends consideration be given to a longer lease term. Mr. & Mrs. Fry have just started developing 'community sustained agriculture', and hope to interface with the public uses that will occur at Hammond's Connection. Gail Yeiser, a Committee Member representing the Anne Arundel Count 4-H Dairy Leasing Club told the Committee that the club is for urban children to

learn about large farm animals. She told of the activities that the 4-Hers participate in and how they utilize the property. Gail handed out a sheet that gave more information concerning the activities of the club.

At this point everyone headed out to the hay wagon or van for a ride to the Hammond's Connection portion of the Dairy Farm to get familiar with the lay of the land. The group made stops near the Hammond's Graveyard and at the streambeds.

Some of the items & comments noted on the site visit include:

- Access from Dairy Farm Road will be objectionable to some of the adjacent residents
- Questions were raised about what type of paving would be on the site.
- Concern about buffering the streams from development and the proximity of the farm animals to the stream and the degradation that they are causing the stream.
- Questions concerning existing archeological sites and impacts from development
- The site is currently planted with grain
- The lay of the land is more hilly than expected.
- Concerns about environmental impacts caused by development
- The farming operation would like to keep the gravel pit open to continue to use the excavated gravel material for maintenance of the farm access roads.
- Concern about determining a cost estimate and a source of funding for suggested rehabilitation of eroded streams. Determination of costs and funding sources for this corrective work is not the responsibility of the Advisory Committee. If implemented, this work, as well as all future improvements and changes included in the final master plan will be accomplished via the County's standard capital budget appropriation/approval process.
- Questions were asked about location of the amphitheater and concern about the impact of noise to area residents
- Interest in creating habitat for grassland birds
- Interest in mapping the large trees to incorporate into the design
- Is there area that would be appropriate for community gardens on the site (3-acres or so)

With such a large group it was difficult to hear all the comments and questions raised.

If there are issues or questions that you feel need to be addressed please bring them to the next meeting. Also, the small portion west of Dairy Farm Road that the Committee is responsible for was not included on the tour, so it would be good if the Committee Members could take a look at that prior to the next meeting.

The next meeting will be June 18, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the Heritage Complex 2664 Riva Road in Annapolis in the Chesapeake Meeting Room on the 2nd floor.

Sincerely,
Sally Malena
Human & Rohde Inc.

CC. Attendees
Committee Members