



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Steven A. Silverman
Director

MEMORANDUM

February 15, 2014

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)

FROM: Jeremy V. Criss, Agricultural Services Manager
Department of Economic Development

SUBJECT: The Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Tuesday, February 18, 2014

Please be advised the Agricultural Advisory Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at the Up County Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road Germantown in Room B at 7:00 p.m.**

The agenda is on the next page.

The other attachments for our meeting will be posted on the Agricultural Services web site. Due to the County's paper reduction mandate, please print these attachments out and bring them with you to the meeting.

See you on Tuesday evening.

*Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If you need other services or aids to participate in this activity, please call 301-590-2810

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Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda – February 18, 2014

1. Introductions:
2. Approval of the AAC Minutes from December 17, 2013. Please note the January 21, 2014 meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.
3. Update on the Zoning Rewrite ZTA 13-04.
4. Update on the Part-time Agronomy Educator Position funded by the County and assigned to work in Montgomery County.
5. Farming at Metro's Edge Conference-FAME Final Report. A Full Council Work Session was scheduled for March 4, 2014 and it will be rescheduled due to the County Closures. See please the 2014 Agenda item below for Craig Rice County Council President.

Third, we need to ensure our Agricultural Reserve, and all it has to offer, lives up to its full potential. This means implementing many of the recommendations listed in the Farming At Metro's Edge, or F.A.M.E, report including, but not limited to, the creation of a farming business navigator position and a pilot farming magnet program within MCPS. The ultimate goal of this is to secure the future sustainability and profit of farming as well as the availability of fresh foods for our region. This mission complements the great work currently being done by our Montgomery County Food Council.

6. Follow up from the High Tunnel and Greenhouse Listening Session. A Public Workshop is proposed for April 29, 2014. The actual time will be announced.
7. Update on Farmland Preservation Easement Purchase Period February-April 1, 2014
8. New Appointments to the AAC
We need to recommend replacements for Robert Beall and Woody Woodroof.
Doug Lechlinder has applied and I think that Michele Cropp will be applying for the AAC.
We need to recommend a farmer member to the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee to serve as the AAC representative replacing Eric Spates and a second farmer replacing Greg Glen.
9. Next Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2014.
We need to follow up on the discussion from our meeting with the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee. The AAC prepared a detailed letter dated February 9, 2009 addressed to the County Executive and copied to the Director of DOT. The AAC recommended a separate CIP project for the Rustic Roads including a list of the roads that needed trees trimmed.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors-February 21, 2014@9:00am

Winter Agronomy Meeting Update-February 26, 2014@ 9:00 am.

Montgomery County Food Council-March 1, 2014, 2014 @ 10:00am

Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Directors-March 4, 2014@7:00pm
Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board-March 11, 2014@7:30pm
Annual Montgomery Weed Control, Inc. Meeting-March 12, 2014@9:30am
Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors-March 14, 2014@9:00am
Agricultural Advisory Committee-March 18, 2014 @ 7:00 pm
Farmers Market-WIC/FMNP Training- March 19, 2014@9:00am
High Tunnel Public Work Shop-April 29, 2014