



OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Jeremy V. Criss
Director

MEMORANDUM

June 15, 2018

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)
FROM: Jeremy V. Criss, Director
Office of Agriculture
SUBJECT: June 19, 2018 Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee

The Agricultural Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday **June 19, 2018 at the at 7:00 pm.**

**We will be meeting at the Holy Cross Hospital in Germantown-Room 1507/1508-19801
Observation Drive Germantown, MD 20876.**

The agenda is on the next page.

The draft minutes from the May 15, 2018 AAC meeting will be available prior to our meeting.

The other attachments for our meeting will be posted on the Office of Agriculture web site.

<http://montgomerycountymd.gov/AgServices/agboardscommittee.html>

I hope to see you on Tuesday.

*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.

e:aacJune(aac18)



**Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
June 19, 2018**

1. Meeting Called to Order and Introductions.
2. Approval of the May 15, 2018 AAC Meeting Minutes.
3. The County Council passed ZTA 18-01 Solar Collection System that proposes 2-megawatt community solar in all zones with exception to Agricultural Zone. Accessory Solar (120% of onsite energy consumption) will continue to be allowed in the Agricultural Reserve-AR zone. Please note that one megawatt of solar panels ranges from 6 to 10 acres in size depending on the property. The effective date of the ZTA 18-01 is June 4, 2018.
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/Resources/Files/zta/2018/20170515_18-43.pdfhttp://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MapView.php?view_id=169&clip_id=15077&meta_id=157490
4. During the May 15, 2018 public hearing on ZTA 18-03 Farm Alcohol Production- Standards, Nancy Navarro asked to be included as a cosponsor. Seven of the nine Council members are now signed on to the ZTA 18-03. The PHED Committee Work Session is now scheduled for July 9, 2018.
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MapView.php?view_id=169&clip_id=15077&meta_id=157498
5. During the May 15, 2018, public hearing on ZTA 18-04, the County Council acknowledged the proposed amendments by the County Executive to limit the scope of Non-Conforming uses in place prior to October 2014 that can be expanded. The Davis Airport is the subject of the ZTA and the County Executive's amendments to limit the scope of the ZTA have been well received by the Council.
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MapView.php?view_id=169&clip_id=15077&meta_id=157500
6. Follow up on the DNR proposed changes to the 2018-2019 hunting regulations. The DNR does not support Montgomery County to be designated as a Suburban Deer Archery Zone and exempt from bag limits for both antlered and antlerless deer. The DNR published in the Maryland Register a maximum bag limit of 15 deer for both antlered and antlerless deer. The deadline to provide additional comments is July 9, 2018.
7. There have been six Agritourism Study Advisory Committee meetings (November 29, 2017, January 17, 2018, February 21, 2018, April 2, 2018, April 18, 2018 and May 16, 2018. The seventh and final ASAC meeting is June 20, 2018. The Agritourism Advisory Committee has agreed on some agritourism definitions for greater clarity including a list of questions that DPS and OAG staff will ask for agritourism requests. The MNCPPC staff

proposed how the Agritourism review and approval process will link with Heritage Montgomery Management Plan with the Transportation section of MNCPPC including Rustic Roads. Additionally, the MNCPPC have secured a contractor to help them investigate the types of agritourism activities going on in other jurisdictions.

8. Promotion of Gleaning food to be donated to people in need with the benefits of the Tax Credit for donating food. The following farmers have indicated they will work with Community Food Rescue to donate food this season. Lewis Orchard, Butlers Orchard, Red Wiggler Community Farm, and One Acre Farm. <http://news.maryland.gov/mda/press-release/2017/09/11/food-donation-tax-credit-pilot-program-now-in-effect-southern-maryland-farmers-eligible-for-up-to-5000-state-tax-credit/>
9. On July 20, 2018, the agricultural agencies will sponsor an event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary and Recognition of Conservation Tillage including no till farming in the County. The event will consist of an optional tour of farms in the morning with a luncheon and short program at the County Agricultural Fair. We are looking for funding sponsors for the luncheon. We have the several county farmers offering to contribute funding for the event. Please let Jeremy know if your family farm wishes to contribute.
10. County Council Confirmation for appointment to Rustic Roads Advisory Committee-Lonnie Luther new farmer member.
11. Update on the new County Executive appointments to the Agricultural Advisory Committee.
12. Please see the 29th Annual Farm Tour and Harvest Sale Brochure-July 28-29, 2018.
13. The next meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee is Tuesday July 17, 2018 at 7:00 at the Holy Cross Germantown Hospital.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Ag Advisory Committee-June 19, 2018 @ 7:00pm-Holy Cross Hospital
Agritourism Study Advisory Committee-June 20, 2018 @ 6:00pm-AHFP
Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Supervisors-July 3, 2018@ 7:00pm
Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board-July 10, 2018 @7:00pm
Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors-July 13, 2018@ 9:00am
50th Anniversary and Recognition of Conservation Tillage-July 20, 2018