



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Sally Sternbach
Acting Director

MEMORANDUM

June 12, 2015

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)
FROM: Jeremy V. Criss, Agricultural Services Manager
Department of Economic Development
SUBJECT: The Agricultural Advisory Committee and Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board Meeting Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Please be advised the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be meeting on **Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at the Up County Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road Germantown in Room A 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

e:aacJune(aac15)

**Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting
Agenda – June 16, 2015**

1. Introductions:
2. Approval of the AAC Minutes from May 19, 2015. (Attachment A)
3. **Follow up on the Pesticide Legislation Bill 52-14.**

Response from Council President Leventhal regarding the AAC letter to the CE-Noxious Weeds in front of the Up-County Regional Services Center. Discussion of letters from Council Member Roger Berliner to area hospitals and the Maryland Attorney General. (Attachment B)

The T&E Committee will conduct the third Work Session on Bill 52-14 on June 15, 2015 @ 9:00 am.

4. Follow up from the May 27, 2015 meeting of the AAC Subcommittee for Proposed amendments to the Zoning Regulations to allow production of Beer, Hard-Cider, and Distilled Spirits and associated tasting rooms, private events like birthday parties, Bar mitzvahs, and weddings on farms in the AR zone as limited use accessory to farming. The next meeting is still pending as additional research and editing is needed to the draft summary of uses and standards. (Attachment C)

5. Developments on the MAEF Mobile Science Lab built for Montgomery County and rotated to 30 Montgomery County Elementary Schools each year. Doug Tregoning, Tom Hartsock, Caroline Taylor and Jeremy Criss are working on the details to have the lab ready for the upcoming school semester this fall.

6. Annual Farm Tour and Harvest Sale-July 25-26, 2015 19 farms are on the Tour this year and we are working with MSCD, MCFB, UM-Extension on promotional funding for the event.

7. New Appointments to the AAC- Patrick Jamison to replace Tim McGrath, We still need to find a replacement for Charlotte Ruppert McGhee, Debbie Benson has not yet requested reappointment??

8. **Future of Department of Economic Development-Bill 25-15**

Follow up from the May 18, 2015 meeting with the County Executive

Ag Services Navigator-Solicitation for contractor was put on hold-the CAO requested this position remain open for potential DED staff that may be RIFFed.

The Bill 25-15 was introduced on May 21, 2015 and proposes the creation of the Office of Agriculture- the Public Hearing was June 9, 2015 and the PHED Committee Work Sessions are scheduled for June 18, 2015 and June 22, 2015 @ 3:00 pm. The APAB, AAC, and MSCD

provided letters to the County Council and David Weitzer presented testimony at the public hearing. (Attachment D)

9. Next meeting of the AAC is scheduled for July 21, 2015 @ 7:00pm in Room A.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Directors-July 7, 2015@ 7:00pm

Montgomery County Agricultural Pres. Advisory Board-July 14, 2015@ 7:00pm

Agricultural Advisory Committee-July 21, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Sup-August 14, 2015@ 9:00am

County Agricultural Fair-August 14-22, 2015

Agricultural Leaders Luncheon-Monday August 17, 2015 at 12:00 noon.