

From: Jane Seigler [mailto:seigler.jane@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2012 2:38 PM
To: Criss, Jeremy
Subject: Re: Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Tuesday November 20, 2012

Hi Jeremy,

I have another meeting in Anne Arundel before the AAC meeting tomorrow, so I may not make it to the AAC. Just in case, here is a summary of the status of the zoning re-write.

On the intent statement - a good outcome, I think. The Board agreed to stick with the original language, with the addition of a sentence at the end of paragraph 1:

AR Intent Statement

1. The intent of the AR zone is to promote agriculture as the primary land use in areas of the County designated for agricultural preservation in the General Plan, the Functional Master Plan for Preservation of Agriculture and Rural Open Space, and other current or future master plans. This is to be accomplished by providing large areas of generally contiguous properties suitable for agricultural and related uses and permitting the transfer of development rights from properties in this zone to properties in designated receiving areas. Residential uses should be located and arranged to support agriculture as the primary use and the rural character of the Agricultural Reserve.
2. Agriculture is the preferred use in the AR zone. All agricultural operations are permitted at any time, including the operation of farm machinery. No agricultural use can be subject to restriction on the grounds that it interferes with other uses permitted in the zone, but uses that are not exclusively agricultural in nature are subject to additional use standards or the conditional use approval process.
3. The intent of the child lot option in the AR zone is to facilitate the continuation of the family farming unit or to otherwise meet the purposes of the AR zone.

Re: the definition of farming - another good outcome, I think:

Farming

A. Defined,

Farming is an operation on a tract of land, with or without associated buildings, that is being used for agriculture. Agriculture is the business, science and art of cultivating and managing the soil, composting, growing, harvesting, and selling crops and livestock, and the products of forestry, horticulture and hydroponics; breeding, raising, or managing livestock, including horses, poultry, fish, game, and fur-bearing animals, dairying, beekeeping and similar activities, and equestrian events and activities. Agriculture includes processing on the farm of an agricultural product in the course of preparing the product for market and may or may not cause a change in the natural form or state of the product. Uses considered accessory to farming include:

1. Accessory agricultural processing and storage of products grown on site or on property owned, rented and/or controlled by the farmer.

2. The sale of products of agriculture and agricultural processing, if products are produced on site

or on property owned, rented and/or controlled by the farmer.

3. The sale of horticultural products grown off-site, but kept on the farm temporarily on a maximum of 2

acres or 20% of the site, whichever is less.

4. The delivery and installation of horticultural products grown on the farm.

B. Use Standards

Where Farming is allowed as a limited, it is subject to the following standards:

a. The breeding, raising or managing of livestock is prohibited, except as allowed under Animal Husbandry (see Sec. 3.2.10.B, Animal Husbandry).

Use	AR	R	RC	RNC	RE-2	RE-2C	RE-1	R-200	R-90	R-60
<i>Farming</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	L	L	L

In addition to approving these changes the Board approved removing footnote 48 from the Farm Supply, Machinery Sales, Storage and Service use. The Board decided to retain this use as a conditional use.

The Board also approved removing footnote 48 from the Bed and Breakfast use if it is accessory to Farming.

Finally, the despite the Staff's recommendation to approve our proposal regarding the Ag Education/Tourism, the Board decided not to go forward with this new use. The Board felt that there was not enough agreement among the stakeholders about what kinds of activities that are not strictly ag related should be allowed e.g., day camps. In addition, Callum had some concerns regarding septic, etc.

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On Nov 16, 2012, at 3:58 PM, Criss, Jeremy wrote:

Hello everyone,

The Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday November 20, 2012 at the Up-County Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road in Germantown in Room B at **7:00 pm**.

The meeting announcement and agenda are attached.

The packet of information for the meeting will be posted on the DED web

site. <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agstmpl.asp?url=/content/DED/AgServices/agboardscommittee.asp>

Please let me know if you cannot attend this meeting.

I hope to see you next week.

Thanks Jeremy

Jeremy V. Criss

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<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices>

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