

## **AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2006 MEETING**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Everett Stuart, Kevin Nelson, Dave Wallace, George Mason, Ken Ayars (for Bob Sutton)

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jason Pezzullo, Jim Opaluch

**GUESTS:**

**STAFF:** Lis Peterman, DEM

The meeting began at 5:15 pm at USDA, 60 Quaker Lane, Warwick, RI.

Kevin Nelson made a motion, seconded by Dave Wallace to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2006 Meeting with amendments. The motion passed unanimously.

Rich Clark provided an update on his activities and plans at the Browning Farm, So. Kingstown in relation to the proposed subdivision of a parcel and purchase thereof, and the initiation of some farming activities at the site. The Commission thanked Rich for the update and has no objections to the plans and activities, as they are consistent with plans previously approved by the Commission.

The Commission discussed the proposed rules amendments and public hearing, and Kevin Nelson made a motion, seconded by George Mason, to schedule a public hearing on either October 26<sup>th</sup> or November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission discussed appraisal methodology and the appraisal subcommittee. George Mason will schedule a meeting of the subcommittee between now and the November meeting.

Ken Ayars handed out and discussed and updated list of protected farms. The Commission with many partnerships has protected a total of 70 farms in Rhode Island totaling 5,033 acres. Four farms have been protected to date in 2006 with many others in negotiation.

Ken Ayars and Lis Peterman distributed applications and discussed farms submitted for scoring.

The Commission discussed farms in negotiation and the Commission budget.

The Commission discussed going into Executive Session as needed to discuss certain agenda items, and agreed to determine the appropriate language and procedure for going into as needed.

The Commission discussed insurance for members and agreed to seek a legal opinion on need and applicability.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth D. Ayars, Chief  
Division of Agriculture, RIDEM