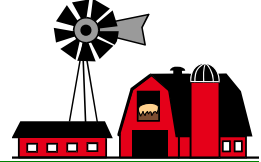


STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission
c/o Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908



AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2007 MEETING

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Everett Stuart, Kevin Nelson, Dave Wallace, Ken Ayars, George Mason, William Wright, Jason Pezzullo (non-voting member).

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Opaluch

STAFF: Lis Peterman-DEM

GUESTS: Rich Schartner
Tim Schartner
Jeb Schartner
Rich Schartner Jr.
Sur John Schartner

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm at USDA, 60 Quaker Lane, Warwick.

Minutes from previous meetings were not yet prepared for review.

The Commission reviewed a request by SODCO, North Kingstown to construct a 50' by 100' metal storage shed for farm equipment on land under developments rights. The Town of North Kingstown has approved the building as consistent with the Town's development right easement for the property, and has also issued a building permit. George Mason made a motion, seconded by Dave Wallace, to approve construction of the equipment storage shed. The motion passed unanimously.

Rich Schartner and sons gave a presentation to the Commission on an Agricultural Conservation Model (ACM) they have developed and are proponent. The model is a revision of the current development rights covenant used by the Commission, and is specifically different in incorporating a farm housing component and more flexibility with building footprints. The model allows for building footprints to be moved around within the easement area to reflect adaptation to different markets and conditions over time, while limiting the overall footprint to a specified acreage set when the land is originally protected. The new model is also incorporated by the Schartners into their negotiations with the Commission and partners for development rights to the Bald Hill Nursery, which was also discussed at the meeting.

The Commission budget and status of farms in negotiation was discussed:

The Commission discussed a request by the Town of North Kingstown for funds toward the purchase of development rights to the DeIVecchio and Freeborn Farms, North Kingstown. North Kingstown requests \$250,000 for DeIVecchio and \$125,000 for Freeborn, and both farms were previously scored and accepted into the program. George Mason made a motion, seconded by Kevin Nelson, to approve funding at the requested amounts, subject to the funds availability and DEM review of the purchase and sale agreement, covenant and appraisal. The motion passed unanimously.

The closing for Treaty Rock Farm, Little Compton is being planned for late November to be followed closely followed by a public ceremony celebrating its protection.

Negotiations with Sakonnet Vineyard, Little Compton and the Dutra and Neale Farms, Jamestown continue with the goal of closing on each before the end of 2007. Negotiations with Tuckahoe Turf, Richmond and Peckham, Tiverton continue with the goal of closing on each in 2008. Harmony Farm, Scituate is still undergoing survey.

Ken Ayars reported that a letter of intent for 2008 FRPP funding was submitted to NRCS with requests for funding for the Peckham Farm, Tiverton and Sinkler Farm, Charlestown.

Kevin Nelson handed out a revised purchase of developments right application form for discussion and review.

The Commission arranged to meet on November 29th to specifically discuss the Schartner Bald Hill Nursery project.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth D. Ayars, Chief
Division of Agriculture, DEM