MINUTES OF FARMLAND COMMITTEE

Suffolk County Planning Department

Date: March 26, 2002

Members
Bennett Orlowski, Jr. (At-Large), Chairman
Present:
Charlie Scheer (At-Large)
Elmer Zeh (Brookhaven)
Albert Schmitt (At-Large)
Nate Corwin (At-Large)
Jacob Rottkamp (Riverhead)
Albert Kilb, Jr. (Shelter Island)
Anthony Brand, Jr., (Huntington)
Joseph Krukowski (Southold)
Mark Zaweski (At-Large)

County
Thomas A. Isles, Suffolk County Dept. of Planning, Director
Staff
James Burke, Suffolk County Div. of Real Estate, Acting Director
Present:
Jenny Kohn, Esq., Suffolk County Attorney’s Office, Counsel
Christine D. Costigan, S.C. Div. of Real Estate, Director
Roy Fedele, S.C. Dept. of Planning

Guests:
Joe Gergela, L.I. Farm Bureau
Bill Sanok, CCE
Thomas B. Williams, CCE, Director
Ray Blum, Southold Town Land Preservation
Dick Ryan, Southold Town Land Preservation
Milessa Spiro, Southold Town Land Preservation
Hoot Sherman, Peconic Land Trust
Barbara Blass, Riverhead Town Councilwoman
Richard M. O’Dea, Farm Select Committee
Becky Wiseman, L.I. Farm Bureau
Daniel C. Ross, Atty.
Gail Wickham, Atty.
Pat McNamara
Maureen Griffin
Thomas A. Funfgeld
Vasillos Roufanus
Paulette Satur
Eberhard Mueller

Members
Olney M. Gardiner (East Hampton)
Absent:
Brian Zitani (Babylon)
Dan Fricke (Riverhead)
Russell Barnett (Smithtown)
Lee Foster (Southampton)
Eugene Murphy (Islip)
The meeting of the Farmland Committee was called to order by the Chairman, Bennett Orlowski, at 6:47 p.m. at the Suffolk County Cooperative Extension in Riverhead.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was put forth by Charles Scheer and seconded by Albert Kilb to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2002 meeting of the Farmland Committee. Motion carried. 10-0-0

Introduction of New People

Christine Costigan, the new head of Suffolk County Department of Real Estate was introduced. Thomas Williams, the new Director of Suffolk County Cooperative Extension, was also introduced. Ronald Bush and Reed Jarvis are being considered for Farmland Committee members.

Paulette Satur: Application for siting two (2) greenhouses and SEQR Resolution

Paulette Satur, reading from a prepared statement, informed the Committee that her application is for “plastic tunnels” and that they are not considered greenhouses. They are not considered structures or buildings but they are, in fact, equipment. She feels they should be approved at their current site. Dan Ross said the greenhouses were built prior to approval and that they were approved for another location. Elmer Zeh felt that the photograph supplied by Paulette Satur was very deceiving. It appears to be very far away when it actually is right on the road.

Chairman Orlowski made a resolution to do a SEQR determination on this application making it a Type II Action. The Committee has no further responsibility under SEQR. This motion was seconded by Charles Scheer. Motion carried. 10-0-0.

A motion was made by Elmer Zeh to move the greenhouses to a location previously determined by the Committee. It was seconded by Albert Schmitt. Motion carried. 10-0-0

Billy Roufanos - 8 Ft. Deer Fence

Mr. Roufanos is requesting permission to erect an 8 ft. fence along most of the 32 acres. Chairman Orlowski made a resolution to do a SEQR determination on Mr. Roufanos’ request making it a Type II Action and no longer the responsibility of the Committee. This motion was seconded by Albert Kilb. Motion carried. 10-0-0.

The Committee allowed the 8 ft. deer fence subject to Southold’s rules and regulations. A motion for approval was made by Charles Scheer and seconded by Nate Corwin. Motion carried. 10-0-0.

New Parcels

Lima - (Crown Stables) 134 acres in Calverton in the Pine Barrens Receiving Zone. A re-vote from the January 29, 2002 meeting was taken. A motion for denial was made by Charles Scheer and seconded by Elmer Zeh. Motion carried. 10-0-0
Fink - 23.6 acres of farmland in Wading River zoned RA, scored 17 by the Committee. A motion for denial was made by Charles Scheer and seconded by Nate Corwin. Motion carried. 10-0-0.

Whitmore Nurseries - 35 acres of Bridgehampton soil located in East Hampton with 500' on Long Lane adjacent to the Schwenk property. It scored 17 by the Committee. A motion for approval, if East Hampton shares the expense, was made by Elmer Zeh and seconded by Albert Kilb. Motion carried. 10-0-0

Bowles - The Committee decided to table this parcel until Riverhead has a chance to review it.

Wagner - About 30 acres on River Road. Barbara Blass informed the Committee that there is restricted development on the parcel and an appraisal would be low. The decision was to leave it as previously approved.

David Zuhoski - Two (2) 24' x 196' greenhouses on Oregon Road in Cutchogue. Tabled.

Farmland Committee Members with Long-term Absences

Letters will be sent to members who do not attend three (3) consecutive meetings or more. Tony Brand informed the Committee that he has moved out of Huntington but is the Huntington representative for the Committee.

Next Meeting: April 30, 2002 at 6:00 P.M. at the H. Lee Dennison Bldg., 4th Fl., Hauppauge, NY

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:38 P.M. by Elmer Zeh and seconded by Charles Scheer. Motion carried. 10-0-0