

Knox Agricultural Advisory Committee
Meeting of September 20th, 2022
Knox Town Hall

Summary

Present: Jay Francis; Gary Kleppel; Ken Saddlemire

Absent: Betty Ketcham; Evan Taylor; Brian Wilson

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 pm.

Old business

Discussion and approval of Draft Farm Abandonment Report – The committee and other interested residents reviewed the draft Farm Abandonment Report that will be submitted to the Planning Board and Town Board. Those assembled suggested the following:

In the Rationale – add a statement to the effect that development pressure is expected to increase during the next decade and that will present challenges (and possibly opportunities) for farmers.

In the Conclusion. Alternative 4. Add something to the effect of, “productive agricultural enterprises can serve as a buffer against unsustainable development.

The committee also suggested that the report make it clear that as part of an agricultural use, land may not be in production all the time. For example, USDA conservation programs may require that land be taken out of production for as much as 10 years. This land is still agricultural, as it can only be incorporated into a USDA conservation program if it is agricultural.

No other old business was discussed.

New business

At this time the committee considered no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.