

Knox Agricultural Advisory Committee
Meeting of December 18th, 2019
Knox Town Hall

Summary

Present: Gary Kleppel, Joshua Rockwood, Ken Saddlemire, Brian Wilson

Absent: Jay Francis, Jessica Gaige, Betty Ketcham

- 7:00 Convene
Old business
 Hog & Swine Farming SEQR Update
 Gary Kleppel & Ken Saddlemire
 Farm Transition Workshop – Gary Kleppel & Ken Saddlemire
 Modify and approve the flyer
 Registration (to charge or not to charge)
 Set up and approve an agenda
 Determine who does what
 Comments and discussion
- 8:25 Adjourn

Old business

Hog & Swine Farming SEQR Update – Gary Kleppel and Ken Saddlemire reported that the Town Board has accepted the Hog Farm SEQR parts 1 and 2. The board will complete part 3 and submit the SEQR to the Albany County Planning Board for review in January or February.

Farm Transition Workshop – The committee agreed to charge \$10 registration, to cover the cost of lunch. The members also discussed the registration flyer for the farm transition workshop, suggesting that a registration deadline of January 31 be placed on the flyer. Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) will create the flyer and link it to their registration site. It will be distributed by CCE, National Young Farmers Coalition and American Farmland Trust. It will also be placed on the Town of Knox website.

Kleppel presented the committee with a “strawman” agenda. It was suggested that we contact Dawn Latham of FSA and invite her to speak. Kleppel agreed to do so. Jessica Gaige communicated with the chair, before the meeting, indicating that she was still trying to get someone from Farm Bureau to speak. The committee decided to limit attendance to 80 (we probably won’t reach that goal, and given space and parking availability, a maximum of 50 attendees is more realistic). The Commissioner of Ag & Markets will open the workshop. The committee approved the draft agenda (attached).

Comments and discussion

The committee continued to discuss NYS Real Property Law section 333c – the requirement that people purchasing property in an agricultural district be informed in writing that farming practices produce noise, odors and other conditions that would be considered nuisance and would not be permitted in a residential district but are permitted in an agricultural district. The committee agreed to try to find out where the RPL 333c document signed by a potential buyer would be archived by contacting the NYS Board of Realtors.