



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY
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**HOWARD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD (APB)
AND STATE AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD (APAB)**

March 22, 2021

Attendance:

Board Members: Mickey Day (Chair)

Savannah Kaiss

Cathy Hudson

Ann Jones (Vice Chair)

Jamie Brown

Abby Gibbon

Staff: James Zoller, Executive Secretary/Agricultural Coordinator (OCS)

Morenike Oyenusi, Senior Assistant County Solicitor

Joy Levy, Program Administrator, (ALPP)

Matthew Hoover, Administrative Aide, (OCS)

Guest: John Hyman

Action Items

1) Minutes from the meeting of February 22, 2021

No additions or corrections. Mr. Brown motioned for approval and it was seconded by Ms. Hudson. All board members in attendance approved the minutes.

2) Request for Approval, Tenant House, 2149 LLC property; 171+/- acres (APB) ([Staff Report](#))

Ms. Levy reviewed the staff report with the Board and the contents included with it and she provided some background information about the property. The property was placed in the program in October of 1990. The current tenant moved out and they want to renovate the structure. Currently, the structure is an office building and 2149 LLC wants to renovate the structure so that it is an actual living space and it will be resided in by a full-time tenant.

Ms. Levy reviewed the farming operations, the other agricultural structures that are on the property and the responsibilities of the tenants. Ms. Levy showed where the location of the proposed tenant house would be on the aerial map. Staff recommends approval of the request to re-designate the existing office building as a tenant house.

Ms. Jones motioned to recommend approval of the proposed tenant house. Ms. Jones thinks that both the location and the need were justified by the application made by the applicant. Ms. Hudson seconded the motion. Ms. Kaiss recused herself from the vote. All APB members in attendance were in favor of the motion, except for Ms. Kaiss who didn't vote, so the motion passed.

2) Request for Approval, Tenant House, TDH Farms, LLC property; 71+/- acres (APB) ([Staff Report](#))

Ms. Levy reviewed the staff report with the Board and the contents included with it. The property was placed in the program in November of 1989. The current request is to replace a tenant house that preexisted the easement which was recently removed from the property.

Ms. Levy reviewed the farming operations, the other agricultural structures that are on the property and the responsibilities of the tenants. Ms. Levy showed where the location of the proposed tenant house would be on the aerial map. Staff recommends approval of the request to replace the tenant house that preexisted the easement.

The Board was advised that tenant houses are viewed as being an accessory use of farming, so there doesn't have to be a principle dwelling on the property. The board was also advised that mobile homes can be used as tenant houses.

Mr. Brown motioned for approval of the tenant house to replace the existing one and it was seconded by Ms. Jones. All APB members in attendance were in favor the motion.

Discussion Items

1) Program Updates

Ms. Jones and Ms. Hudson provided testimony and answered questions during the Council's recent work session.

An update was provided on statuses for acquisitions that the Board has reviewed and for upcoming acquisition requests.

Council member Mr. Yungmann has put together and agritourism work group. The premise of the work group is to figure out ways they can encourage agritourism in Howard County.

The County Executive office is working on a strategic plan for agriculture. They are using some of the information that they received from listening sessions and meetings they had throughout the County.

The Roving Radish will begin its new season in May. They have reached out to local farmers for produce and proteins.

The Roving Radish has a market place that sells local farmers products. They are also looking into setting up an online platform to sell meats for local farmers.

It was asked if any Commercial Solar Facilities (CSF) projects are under construction. None of them are, but some are in various stages of the Conditional Use process.

The APB schedule was discussed, and the Board was advised that a copy of the schedule will be emailed out. The Board will review the schedule during the next meeting.

Public Testimony

No public testimony was provided.

Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Brown motioned to adjourn, and it was seconded by Ms. Jones and all in attendance approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.