

FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE WORK GROUP

In the past, there have been citizen advisory groups that have studied the importance and status of agriculture and have suggested ways to maintain the viability of this industry. The last of these studies was conducted in 1995, and several of the recommendations were successfully implemented.

The appointed 2006 Future of Agriculture Committee (the Committee) will review the work of these previous initiatives and focus their efforts on the preservation of farmland while examining alternative and enhanced agricultural uses and practices. The objective of these efforts is to ensure the protection of the land while providing economically feasible agribusiness opportunities.

Currently, the county has initiated a comprehensive planning process which will recommend how agricultural zoning should evolve in recognition of modern practice and conditions. As part of this process, citizens will be asked to identify the means by which to sustain agriculture activities into the future. Committee recommendations on the future of agriculture will help facilitate those discussions.

Additionally, as farmers seek to maintain their land in the face of increasing costs and decreasing markets, alternative agricultural uses are constantly being sought. The Committee will examine ways for farmers to vertically or horizontally integrate their current product lines to produce additional revenue.

MEMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

Mr. R. Wayne Barnes	Ad-hoc
Mr. Dwight Baugher	Ad-hoc
Ms. Ruth W. Camelin	Ad-hoc
Mr. Jeffrey Fritz	Ad-hoc
Mr. Robert A. Geiman, Jr.	Ad-hoc
Mr. William L. Harrison	Ad-hoc
Mr. Steven Johnson	Ad-hoc
Mr. Matt M. Hoff	Ad-hoc
Mr. Donald Lippy	Ad-hoc
Ms. Donna Myers	Ad-hoc
Mr. William Rasche, Jr.	Ad-hoc

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