



SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

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Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board
Dec. 8th, 2010

Minutes

Members In Attendance

Murray Benjamin Randy Good Jim Carstens Mike Hulbert Nate Youngquist
Kim Mower Nels Lagerlund Greg Lee Lyle Wesen
Members not in attendance: Craig Knutzen Bill McMoran Bob Hughes

Non-Members In Attendance

Ron Wesen- Skagit County Commissioner
Kendra Smith –Skagit NRL Coordinator
Carly Ruacho – Skagit PDS
Gary Christiansen –Skagit PDS
David Lervick

Meeting Call To Order, Minutes Review

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nels at 6:02 PM. The Minutes from the November meeting were reviewed. Randy moved to accept and Jim seconded. Motion passed.

Guest Speaker – none

Committee Reports

- Land Use – Nels reviewed the memo from PDS concerning Temporary Events on Ag/NRL. Discussion about clarification of the code relating to Temporary Events involving Gary and Carly helping with how to interpret what is allowed. The question was “should County allow for a wider range of Temporary Events on Ag/NRL including non agriculture related?” Mike motion to keep policy the same as it currently is, Jim seconded, motion passed 7 -1 with Kim the dissenting vote, wanting more review for” possible allowance of Temporary Events of non ag related with strong rules for ag protection and Event ag themed, or stronger language to assure all Temporary Events on ag/NRL continue to be strictly ag related” to assist PDS in their Permit issuance
- 12-1-2010 2:PM Copper Room - Present members: Nels, Greg, Jim, Randy,Nate, Kim Murray and Commissioner Dahlsted. No one present

Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board Members:

Nels Lagerlund (Chair), Mike Hulbert (Vice Chair), Murray Benjamin, Jim Carstens, Randy Good, Michael Hughes, Kraig Knutzen, , Greg Lee, Bill McMoran, Kim Mower, Nate Youngquist, Lyle Wesen, Carly Ruacho, Ex-Officio, Planning & Development Services, Don McMoran, WSU Extension.

from Planning at this meeting. Kendra was staff person. Much discussion as to whether other uses should be allowed on Ag/NRL. With much time devoted to reviewing codes Murray references to GMA allowances and the way Skagit County defines accessory uses and home based businesses in 14.16.400. The committee wanted assurances that Ag land wouldn't be lost or converted with current wedding proposals. The discussion led to the idea of having clients signing a contract explaining the situation with neighbors the rights to farm and potential unpleasant allowable activities. Kim Spoke on past legal and Greg spoke on supply and demand with these activities. All present agreed, activities must use at least one product from farm and use" right for farm" ordinance.

- CAO – Randy reported on the meeting held on Dec 1st, regarding the bill construct before the Legislature as a result of the Ruckleshous meetings. Randy and Kim discussed the errors noted in the language of the bill, demonstrating it is still a work in progress. Questions such as will "DOE Grazing Manuel" be included and clarifications of bench marks and other details reviewed were reported.

Old Business – none

New Business

Nels reported the Bob wishes to resign from the AAB. A letter from Mike Hughes outlining his history and experiences was presented and discussion about his potential as a replacement.

Extra Discussion

Nate talked about the Envision 2060 project and reported a meeting was being created for the agriculture community's benefit. Kim gave a few details, and Gary gave an in depth report on 2060. Meeting date and place have not been set.

Kendra reviewed spending of the Farmland Legacy Program.

Murray reported terms were up on Kim, Nels, Nate, and Jim. All members wanted to re-up.

Elections: Annual elections resulted in Chair – Nels; Vice Chair – Kim; Secretary – Murray. Lyle motioned, and Mike seconded, to accept the voting, motion passed.

Adjourn

Kim motioned to adjourn, Greg seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

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Minutes taken by Murray, prepared by Kim
Work items - none

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