Edmonds, Laura

From: Avanhuyck@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 5:37 PM
To: Ryan, Patrick J..; Avanhuyck@aol.com
Cc: info@newasburyfarm.com; Nelson, Melissa; Howell, Warren; Hornbaker, Gary; Edmonds, Laura
Subject: Re: Chesapeake Bay Stakeholder Meeting

Hi All: Below is the draft presentation I've prepared with the input from Patrick and my memory of our discussions. Please send me any comments, corrections, or additions you think appropriate. Note I've reserved the right for us to discuss the legislation in detail at our next meeting and provide additional comments.

Al Van Huyck

PRESENTATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL & FORESTRY DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

to the

PLANNING COMMISSION

December 3, 2009

I'm Al Van Huyck from Round Hill. Tonight I'm representing the AFDAC to share our preliminary thoughts on the proposed Chesapeake Bay Option One draft legislation.

We have discussed the earlier versions of draft legislation in our recent meetings.

We in principle support the proposed legislation and look forward to participating in the Planning Commission public hearing tentatively scheduled for January 28, 2010.

The AFDAC is concerned that adequate staffing arrangements be in place to guide the implementation of the ordinance. To place the legislation on the books, but not provide for enforcement adequately will lead to abuse by some and work a competive hardship on those who voluntarily comply.

The AFDAC also would like to see a formal public education campaign be developed to provide information about the benefits of the legislation to the Bay and to effected property owners.

This public education effort should include information on all the other land conservation programs available from the State, and Soil and Water Board and Extension service.

The AFDAC has expressed a concern that the implementation process be kept simple to make compliance by property owners as easy as possible and with costs kept affordable.

The AFDAC is most interested in working cooperatively with the county to revise our requirements for the Land Management Plan (required for property owners seeking to enroll in an Ag District) to provide for compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Option 1 as a prerequisite for acceptance.

FINALLY, we have not held a meeting since this proposed draft legislation has been made available. We will hold a meeting in January, 2010 and will review the details of the proposal at that time.

We reserve the opportunity to provide further comments and specific suggestions for modification, if any, prior to the public hearing.

On behalf of all our members I want to congratulate the staff for providing a very important initiative for the county. We believe that the environmental benefits will not only contribute to improving the Chesapeake Bay, but provide important benefits to the rivers and streams of Loudoun County as well.