

***Town of Ballston Farmland Protection Plan***  
***Committee Meeting***  
**Minutes, February 17, 2011**  
**7:00pm, Town Hall**

1. **Attendance:** Andy VanVorst, Bob Pustolka, Joan Pott, Laura Conrad, Frieda Garrison, Garth Ellms, Jeremy Knight, Polly Windels, Steve Stark, Cliff Samson, Arnold Palmer, Scott Miller, Jaime O’Neill  
(Absent – Chuck Curtiss and Dick Voehringer – other meeting conflicts)
2. **Meeting called to order at 7:04pm**  
Distributed to all attendees copies of Agenda, “A Checklist for Supporting Ag at the Town Level” published by American Farmland Trust, Resources websites list, and a humorous but factual dairy statistic titled “Holy Cow”.
3. **Sub-committee Reports:**
  - a. Mission Statement draft: received copies of inputs from committee members.
    1. Chairman will distribute via email and snail mail all inputs for full committee consideration and editing. Final form at next meeting.
  - b. History of Ag in Ballston:
    1. Laura Conrad submitted Town Historian, Rick Reynolds’ input via email. ‘Tweaking’ to occur through month, and vote to approve final version 3/17.
  - c. Ag Soil types/Ag Inventory-Map/Types of Ag currently in town
    1. Frieda Garrison researched at CCE and County Soil. Supervisor Patti Southworth will call Jason Kemper at County Planning to authorize Troy Hilts to prepare said maps and info for us. Cliff Sampson offered use of maps compiled during Comp Plan prep noting small plots in active ag production.
4. **Reviewed, prioritized, and assigned additional Sub-Committee Tasks as follows:**
  - a. 8. Analyze data and identify current ag threats, opportunities, fiscal and zoning impacts on ag. (Laura, Garth, Frieda)
  9. Town development trends and pressures (Laura, Garth, Frieda)
  10. Current regional planning (Laura, Garth, Frieda)
  11. Survey agriculture landowners (Garth and others)
5. **Welcome: Jaime L. O’Neill, Planner, Saratoga County Planning Department**
  - a. Definition of Ag referencing Ag Law 25AA; Ag Assessments discussed and a Resolution from Town of Saratoga shared; noted high return of surveys in Charlton’s process; discussed Comp Plan/Zoning Ordination/FLPP/Right to Farm Law integration; explanation of in’s and out’s of PDR’s and TDR’s; differentiated definitions of Farmland vis-à-vis Open Space
6. Next Committee Meeting: Thurs., March 17, 2011, 7:00pm, Town Hall
7. Adjourn 8:10pm