

Minutes Farmland Protection Subcommittee Feb 24, 2026, Approved

Board Members Present: Carol Kennedy, Sydney Waller, Cleo Mook, Julie Joyce, Rob Mol, Abby Rodd

Others Present: Neal Newman Town of Middlefield ZEO

Community Member: Rob Johnes

Call to order, Rob Mol-Head of Subcommittee, 6:05 PM

Reviewed what the subcommittee has done to date:

- Proposed adding several definitions to zoning law to help clarify regulations.
- Submitted definitions to Town lawyer – Dave Clinton - for review and 4 were considered acceptable (with modifications) to pass on to the Town Board for approval. These were ACTIVE AGRICULTURAL LAND, AGRICULTURAL DATA STATEMENT, AGRICULTURAL USE, FARM OPERATION. A Right to Farm description was also sent on to the Town Board. Two were not deemed appropriate now since there is no zoning language that currently refers to them. These were PRIME FARMLAND and FARMLAND OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE.

Suggestions for Focus – Brainstorm

Discussed the comprehensive plan and the objectives therein including the action plan and developed priorities upon which we should focus.

Our focus will be Goal 1 and Objective 3 of the Comprehensive Plan. We will do this by first reviewing Middlefield zoning and the Comprehensive Plan. Next referring to the Otsego County Farmland Protection Plan for guidance and to zoning regulations in other counties, townships and localities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30