

**Farmland Protection Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes from September 24, 2013**

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm

**Members Present:**

Edgar Masters  
Lia Babitch  
Christie Hegarty  
Bill Kiernan

**Members Absent:**

George Beneke  
Ejay Eisen  
Marcia Becker

**Liaisons and others:**

Jeanne Mettler (Town Board Liason)  
Nan Stolzenburg (Consultant)

Motion made and carried to accept the meeting minutes from July 23, 2013

• **Survey update from Nan Stolzenburg**

To date we have only received one online and thirteen paper completed surveys. It was noted that it can be a hard process to get returns, on average there will only be a 5-10% return with surveys such as ours.

Lia Babitch brought up mailing Camp Hill Village a survey. Nan will send Lia a PDF copy of the survey for Lia to dispense to Camp Hill.

Edgar Masters would like to go through existing list of farms/farmers and create a supplemental mailing list that includes any missed people or farms. Edgar also suggested going through the existing list and weeding out non-necessary responses.

A discussion took place about putting out a reminder to farmers via Copake Connection versus phone calls, versus a separate email. It was settled that a separate email would go out around October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, with a follow up story to run in the Copake Connection.

- Discussion of letter from the State of New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Discussion of the “processing draft of zoning change”
  - Types of animals
  - Necessity of site plan
  - Re-wording and modifications regarding the definition
  - Nan will research state regulations
  - Edgar will send a status letter to Ken Dow

**Additional Items Covered:**

- Nan asked committee members to think about holding interviews with key stake holders and possibly a focus group for farmers

Motion made and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm