

MINUTES OF THE CAPAY VALLEY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON JANUARY 2, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7.20 p.m. By Co-Chairman Anne Rawlins.

Present: Anne Rawlins; Maya Walker, Paul Muller, Penny Leff and Lea Lloyd.

Minutes:

There was no quorum of members present to approve the Minutes of meetings held on March 7, and September 5, 2012.

Discussion Items:

Members from the Capay Valley Ag Task Force and Capay Valley Vision, namely Maya Walker and Paul Muller, addressed the committee on their desire to enhance the viability of local farms and stimulate ag tourism. To further this aim, they expressed a desire to work with our committee to create specific language and objectives to present to the Board of Supervisors. They had previously discussed their objectives with David Morrison, with Yolo County Planning Committee, and he informed them they would have to present their proposals to the local county advisory committees.

Paul Muller stated that at present there were no regulations in place that covered some of the ag tourism activities presently taking place in the Capay Valley. He also expressed concern at the high cost of obtaining permits for ag events for which the County had no specific regulation. Maya Walker expressed concern for the viability of young farmers who were purchasing farms, and the need to minimize the cost of permits etc. to ensure their agriculture ventures were not jeopardized. Paul Muller presented a letter addressed to the committee which outlined their objectives and priorities. (Copy attached). Included in the letter was a copy of regulations enacted by Butte County

A discussion was held on having an overlay zone specifically for the Capay Valley. Paul Muller stated his eldest son was interested in starting a catering business in the Valley as a means of promoting Ag Tourism. Paul also mentioned the activities promoted by Capay Organics - farm tours and other activities, and those undertaken by Full Belly Farm. Paul stated that regulations were lacking in these areas and as a result persons were reluctant to incur the high costs of permits without being ensured they were in compliance with county regulations. Paul mentioned that the owners of Taber Ranch expressed concern at the high cost they paid to obtain a permit for their activities, without being assured the county had a regulation in place.

Anne Rawlins stated the committee had made its recommendations on the Ag Zoning Regulations sometime ago but that these were not yet final and there was still time to make additional recommendations. She agreed to send a copy of the Ag Zoning draft regulations to Maya Walker.

She stated the committee would be willing to consider any recommendations that were presented by the Ag Task Force. Maya Walker stated they were only just in the planning stage and had not yet formulated any specific proposals, but hoped to meet on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 for this purpose. Maya also stated they had presented a copy of Butte County regulations to David Morrison but that he had not yet responded.

The meeting adjourned at 8.00 p.m.

Anne Rawlins