

# Clark County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Committee (APAC) Meeting #8

Sixth Floor Training Room of the Clark County Public Services Center  
1300 Franklin St., Vancouver, WA. October 21, 2008, 6 to 8 p.m.

## *Meeting Summary*

### In attendance:

**Committee members:** Mike Posey, Lorrie Conway, Anne Lawrence, Sunrise O'Mahoney, Dan Roix, Denise Smee, Ingrid Dankmeyer, Doug Steinbarger, and Clarence Petty.

**Staff:** Patrick Lee

**Facilitator:** Doug Zenn, JLA

### Introductions, Agenda Overview:

Facilitator Doug Zenn kicked off the meeting with a review of the agenda.

### Public Outreach/Open Houses

The group discussed the upcoming open houses scheduled for November 5 at the Camas Library, November 10 at the CASEE Center and November 12 at the Public safety Complex. Pat said the meetings would be publicized on the County's website and in newspaper ads. The group also reviewed post cards for distribution to groups and neighbors and posters to be posted in public areas. Doug said he would complete and send electronic copies before the end of the week. Several members said they would pick up copies at the County office. Doug said many of those most interested in the information at these open houses would be part of established networks in which the APAC is involved. He encouraged the group to spread information about the open house as broadly as possible.

Doug reviewed a suggested format for the open house. It would feature a sign-in area, three stations and a presentation area. The three stations would each feature two or three topic areas as featured on display boards (see attachment A). Each Open House date will require about five people to staff: one for sign-in, three for stations and one presenter/roamer (Pat). The following committee members signed up for the Open House dates:

<b><u>Nov. 5</u></b> Ingrid Dankmeyer Doug Stienbarger (possible) Anne Lawrence Lorrie Conway	<b><u>Nov. 10</u></b> Dan Roix Doug Stienbarger Mike Posey Denise Smee	<b><u>Nov. 12</u></b> Sunrise O'Mahoney Anne Lawrence Clarence Petty
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Those not at the meeting should contact Pat or Doug to sign up, if available for one or more dates.

The group suggested Julia's bakery as a local option for open house cookies.

### **Survey**

The group made a few suggestions to the survey. Committee members suggested seeking information about where the survey takers are from and what areas of farming with which they are involved. The group also suggested putting the survey link on the postcard and poster.

### **Mapping**

The group rolled out Denise Smee's newly developed map showing agricultural areas in Clark County. It was developed from an air survey of the County supplemented by a Google Earth. The group compared it to the agricultural designations on County's existing GIS land use map. The group agreed that while the map is not precise, it represents good information and should be included at the open houses for further discussion. Denise agreed to bring a duplicate of the map to the open houses that participants can mark on using different colors for different types of production. The group also would like to have the County's land use map with only the agricultural overlays included at the open houses.

The group discussed possible criteria for consideration for farmland acquisition or assistance.

The list included:

- ✓ Availability
- ✓ Historic Use
- ✓ Soils
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Slope
- ✓ Location to Markets
- ✓ Availability of transportation infrastructure
- ✓ Accessibility
- ✓ Surrounding neighbors (compatibility)
- ✓ Proximity to other farmers

The group also discussed the difficulty in setting criteria for this when there are so many exceptions that work, especially with smaller farms. The group agreed that such criteria should not serve as the only factor in decision making.

### **Next Steps & Final Notes:**

The next meeting will be held on November 24. At the next meeting the group will review and discuss comments from the Open Houses and the remaining steps to complete this group's charge.