ABC Meeting

**Minutes**

# February 28th 2017, 7pm

**Frederick County Office of Economic Development**

* Council Members in attendance: Tom Mullineaux, Scott Hipkins, Gary Grossnickle, Christine Demas, Brian House, Anthony Aellen, Dick Bittner, Arlene Atkins, Bob Black and Katie Albaugh
* Solar Arrays - the ABC discussed proposed amendments to zoning regulation changes for solar collection systems. The ABC is in support of decreasing the Route 15 buffer to 2 miles, or less if the solar collection system does not impact the view shed from Route 15. We support a grandfathering provision if the system has received board of appeals approval. We continue to support the 10% of the tillable acres provision.
* Limited Private Event Venue’s bill- discussion was around whether this bill helps support agriculture with no provisions about agriculture activity. The ABC would like to see a requirement stating “For the 3 years prior to application for approval, gross agricultural income shall have been at least **$25,000** annually, as set forth on Internal Revenue Code Schedule F, or as set forth on any other financial documentation requested and approved by the Department of Planning and Zoning. Gross agricultural income shall remain at least **$25,000** annually as set forth in this Subsection (3).” The ABC would like to see more than a Concept plan be required.
* Councilman Chmelik/Farm Bureau Proposed Definitions- the ABC discussed a proposed definition of Agritourism enterprise as well as Lot Frontage requirements.
* Office of Economic Development Update - OED is hosting a Winery, Brewery, and Distillery Start-up Seminar on March 22nd in partnership with Grow & Fortify. This is a two part series that will be hosted this spring. *Homegrown Frederick* Magazine will be published with the August *Frederick Magazine*
* Agriculture Viability Fund – will be discussed at the April 25th meeting
* Next meeting date is April 25th at 7pm.