

1. Does Chairman have a vote or is the Chairman's vote a tie breaker. Depending on the answer to this question, then a quorum may be 5 plus the chairman.

2. It says that there will be at least 4 mtgs/year. However, later it says that membership might be denied if the member is absent for 3 consecutive meetings or attend less than 50% of the meetings. I realize that the 4 mtg/year is a minimum but the way this is written, a member would only be required to attend a meeting / yr. Secondly, 50% of the meetings would be two. I think this needs to be cleaned up in the guidelines.

3. Five voting members constitutes a quorum. If the chairman has a vote, then items for a vote could be carried by the chair and two other voting members. This means that 3 people of the committee could make all the rules. This may be what you want, but it doesn't seem quite above board and would contribute to the "myths".

4. I was not clear about what land is excluded from consideration. Sometimes the term farmland trust was used and other times, just farmland was used. Which is it? If it is just farmland and not in a Delaware Farmland Trust, What will happen when the land is no longer being farmed?

5. When farming of a parcel of land is suspended and the land is to be sold, will the landowner be prohibited from selling because this is a desirable property for "water quality". [see #8] Perhaps the prohibition will not occur directly from this committee but its actions could prohibit a landowner from realizing full value of the property.

6. What is the express purpose of the map? Is it to demonstrate the lands which are now protected? Is the map to demonstrate current protected lands and future desirable lands to be protected? In other words is the map to be a demonstration of aspiration or mandate.

7. If this is a State committee, why do each of the county councils have responsibility for generating the map?

8. A point on standards and criteria; identifies property necessary for protection of water resources. This is quite broad as all of Delaware is involved in water resources, either to the East or the West of the divide.

9. I don't like the all inclusive last sentence of Standards and Criteria for ---- Areas. Why would this be necessary unless the committee is going to change criteria at will as time progresses. This will add to the possibility of "myths".

Comment: It is understandable that certain "ideas" or "myths" (council words) could be started. The people on the committee are only those interested in saving open space. There is no one who owns the space (at least it didn't seem to be true) As taxpayers, we observe the EPA and DNREC taking liberties with peoples livelihoods and property, and many times implementing conflicting rules, causing harm or burdens to landowners. . The agency and other agencies have been allowed to pass regulations that take on the weight of law, and this is viewed as improper by many people. The national and state government has become a controlling force in our lives and mandating what it says is "good for us". The citizens are naturally suspect of this kind of activity. It is the nature of government to be self replicating because it is a formal organization. This is the nature of formal organizations , and will get out of hand ,unless citizens take note of what is happening.

All citizens have ideas, spheres of influence, no influence, desires to create a living and offer a future to descendents. Those persons who work very hard and sweat to make a living do not take kindly and are naturally suspicious of those persons or agencies attempting to interfere or impede the pursuit of their livelihood. Hence there will be a fertile environment for what you call "wrong ideas and myths". It would seem a prudent idea to develop a closer alliance with the Farm Bureau as a conduit of information for farmers. This is one group of citizens and large landowners that are impacted very directly by DNREC at every turn.