

**Maryland Agricultural Commission
Minutes
November 9, 2016**

Present:

Ag Education – Martha Clark	Field Crops – Donald Maring
Agribusiness – Tom Fisher	Grange – Delegate Paul Stull
Agritourism – Taylor Huffman	Horticulture – Cole Mangum
At Large Ag Service –Vanessa Finney	Nursery I – Marion Mullan
Bio-Fuel – David Burrier	Nursery II – Ray Greenstreet
Consumer – Carroll Shry, Jr.	Poultry I – Charlie Carpenter
Dairy I – Tim Bishton	Poultry II – Michelle Protani-Chesnik
Dairy II – Jason Myers	Vegetable – Alison Howard
Direct Farm Marketing – Katie Kraszewski	University-Dave Myers for Dean Beyrouthy
Farm Bureau – Milly B. Welsh	

~~~~~  
**Absent:**

|                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Aquaculture – Talmage Petty      | Tobacco – Charles Cox        |
| At Large Ag Service –David Roles | Turf – Tom Warpinski         |
| Equine – William Reightler, Jr.  | Veterinary – Dr. John Brooks |
| Food Processing – Cheryl DeBerry | Viticulture – Matthew Spies  |
| Forestry – Vacant                |                              |
| Livestock – William Edwards      |                              |

~~~~~  
MDA Staff:

Joe Bartenfelder-Secretary	Jim Eichhorst – Deputy Secretary
Hans Schmidt – Asst. Sec., RC	Julie Oberg, PIO
Kevin Conroy- Asst. Sec., PI&PM	Jason Schellhardt, PIO
Mark Powell-Marketing	Jim Wallace -Fiscal
Andrew Griffin-Executive Direction	Matt Teffeau- Executive Direction

~~~~~  
**Guests:**

Jonathan Cribbs, Delmarva Farmer

~~~~~

Speakers:

“Maryland’s Best Program and the Maryland Farmers Market Program” by Stone Slade and Shelby Hampton-Watson, Maryland Department of Agriculture

The Meeting was brought to order at 8:40 by Chair Charlie Carpenter.

Commodity Reports:

Ag Education – Martha Clark Educational Programs in Elementary Education New Lab - the fourth lab in MAEF’s fleet is now in service visiting schools across Maryland. The exterior graphics are still to be installed but the interior is fully outfitted with the educational materials, descriptive bulletin boards and teacher resources. **New MD Agriculture Showcase** - construction of the all-aluminum 40ft. gooseneck style trailer

complete with generator, slide-out sides, automatic awnings and access ramps is nearly completed and ready for shipping to Lafayette, Indiana. Purdue University's Exhibit Design Center is creating and will be installing the exhibits in the new Showcase throughout the winter for delivery in MD in the spring. This has been a long process but will be well worth the time and dollars invested. We appreciate the patience of our many donors who are anxious to see the completed Showcase. **Lessons Tied to State Standards**- with the many changes in recent years in the state curriculum standards MAEF has revisited every lab lesson and identified the standards each lesson currently addresses. This information helps school systems understand and validate the value of the lab experience for their students. **Middle School and Natural Resources Education Farm Based Education Network** - MAEF's middle school and natural resources education director, Dr. Peggy Eppig, returned this week from the 4 day National Farm Based Education Network conference in Concord, MA. Peggy was shocked and awed when awarded the Network's Teacher Educator of the Decade award for her work in helping establish the Mid-Atlantic Farm Based Education Network and educator training. Karen Fedor from MDA was also instrumental in helping create this network of farm based educators. **Lessons Available This Fall** - the middle school lessons developed by a committee of farm based educators along with professional educators and supported by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust are available this fall. **Horse Discovery Center Lessons Piloted This Fall** - middle school lessons developed by a committee of Maryland Horse Discovery Center operators and professional educators are being piloted this fall. Funding for the development of this program was through the Maryland Horse Industry Board. **MAEOE Conference Ag Track** - the February 2017 annual conference of the MDAssoc. of Environmental and Outdoor Educators (MAEOE) will have at least five workshops dedicated to integrating agriculture into the school based environmental science programs. 500-800 environmental science educators will be attending the conference in Towson. This is tremendous exposure for Ag in education. **High School/Post Secondary Education MD FFA – Extremely Busy Fall** - to be an FFA student in Maryland is to be extremely busy starting with the first weeks of school. So far this fall students have participated in several career development events, attended the Big E in Springfield, MA, attended the Chapter Officer Leadership Conference (COLT) in Elkton, MD, attended National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, and attended the Maryland regional leaderships conferences. They also have their local chapter activities and fundraisers ongoing throughout the year. **FFA Featured School** - on November 10th, the Maryland FFA Foundation will be featuring North Harford High School's Natural Resources and Agricultural Science Magnet program. There is still room for folks to attend this school tour and banquet. Contact Greg Murrell at gregory.murrell@hcps.org or 410-638-3650. **New FFA Chapter Chartered** -last week Green Street Academy in west Baltimore became the most recent chapter chartered in Maryland and the third chapter in Baltimore City. **Post Secondary Education** - MAEF has been working with Chesapeake College and their new two year Ag program headed by Dr. Nicole Fiorellino which was launched this fall. MAEF is also working with the College of Ag & Natural Resources to improve the Ag Education major at the University of Maryland College Park. **Annual Banquet and Auction Held November 3rd at Michael's Eighth Avenue** - was a great success featuring presentations from Dr. Kevin Maxwell, CEO for Prince George's County Public Schools, Delegate Mike McKay representing Washington and Allegany Counties, and Howard County student Ellie Feaga. The Foundation recognized Evelyn Wilcom for her years as a MAEF Board member and Robert Frazee for his support of agriculture in education as president and CEO of MidAtlantic Farm Credit. Kenny Bounds was an outstanding emcee with the live auction being conducted by Ben Rigdon. The auction raised over \$4,600. MAEF truly appreciates the many auction item donors, the bidders, and the 265 people who took time to attend the event.

Agribusiness – Tom Fisher For the last 18 months, we have been talking about the consolidation process that is taking place in the ag chemical and ag seed business. Last December Dow Chemical and DuPont announced a merger, then Chem China proposed a deal to buy Syngenta in February of this year, and just two months ago, Bayer announced plans to purchase Monsanto. These are mega mergers per WSJ that promise to reshape the global agro-chemicals business. These mergers are coming under review because of concerns

that it could create bigger prices for crop seeds and pesticides. Additionally, the regulators are weighing whether the mergers create unreasonably high barriers to entry for rivals. All the companies mentioned do significant business in the Mid-Atlantic region and have products used by row-crops, fruit, and vegetable growers. WSJ reports that completion of these deals will likely be delayed into 2017. Presently the European Union has launched an in-depth probe to determine the effects of the merger. The U.S. Senate has also recently held hearings with executives of the companies with the same concerns. Industry representatives defend the mergers saying that it takes hundreds of millions of dollars and ten or more years to bring new crops and chemicals to market. There are about 30 regulatory agencies around the world that need to approve these deals.

Agritourism – Taylor Huffman

As most agritourism businesses across the state came to a close over the last week or two, it was an overall relatively good year. I say relatively because many of the farms along the eastern shore were hit with pretty devastating weather as the fall season was just gearing up. During the first weekend into October, high winds and heavy rainfall from Hurricane Matthew hit the east coast hard. Many corn maze attractions were completely leveled from the storm. In fact, our farm in central Maryland, suffered from a drought this summer and when the 3" of rainfall came through from this storm, the weight of the rain caused many of our stalks to snap in half. This left our corn maze less than shoulder height. We were of course grateful as at least our corn was still standing. Many farms on the eastern shore had to get creative to try to salvage the rest of their season. There was a discussion among a group of agritourism farm owners on Facebook sharing pictures and ideas. Some farms were actually going through their fields and trying to clear corn that blew over trails and use stakes and tape to hold up what they could. Other farms were offering discounts, and special packages to try to still bring the crowds to the farm. Agritourism is a tricky business as you are inviting the public onto your farm to experience and learn what a farm can bring to the community. Just a week or so ago I had to laugh as a guest actually asked if we "cut" our corn stalks in half to make the maze more "kid-friendly". Agritourism is a wonderful thing for the public as most of us living and working on a farm don't realize the general public's lack of understanding about where their food comes from. On another note, our farm closed out the season on Sunday with our 3rd annual Fall Farm Fundraiser and we raised \$7,616 for the American Cancer Society in memory of my father Jan. We had a decent season considering we lost an entire weekend of business due to hurricane Matthew. Agritourism businesses across the state are starting to clean up from the spring, summer and fall season. Some are gearing up for Christmas tree sales starting Black Friday.

At Large Ag Service – Vanessa Finney LEAD Maryland, the State's agriculture, natural resources, and rural communities leadership program, has just seated its 10th class. This class will begin its two-year fellowship in February 2017. There were a total of 43 applicants, with 24 applicants chosen for the class. The current class, Class IX will host its group project, a symposium – The Image of Agriculture: The Many Faces of Agriculture on Saturday, November 19th. The focus of the conference is on youth, high school and college-aged. Registration is online at www.imageofagriculture.com. Tickets are \$30 for youth and \$50 for adults.

Forestry-I can speak on behalf of activities in which the MD Forests Association (MFA) is engaged: MFA is working with DNR and others in the forestry field on the Sustainable Forests committee. The work of this committee is focused now on integration of timber harvest permits into forest management plans. There is concern across the state with the wide variability is amongst counties in attaining a timber harvest permit. MFA is also involved with the MD Wood Energy Coalition; this group is working to promote biomass as alternative energy sources.

Nursery and Greenhouse-Generally speaking, many shortages in plant material have been reported this year. Some of this is economic carry-over from the recession where many growers planted less. Demand has now returned and inventory is just not available. The Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association

(MNLGA) continues its work with MDA and education to industry regarding boxwood blight management, BMPs and shipping protocols.

The Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show (MANTS) will be held January 11 – 13th at the Baltimore Convention Center. MANTS has become the largest horticulture trade show in North America. Exhibitors originate from more than 40 states and 7 countries; attendance is estimated in excess of 11,000. Ag Commission members are invited as guests of the MNLGA; please let Vanessa know if you are interested in attending. MDA will be touring on Wednesday, January 11th at 9 a.m.

Biofuel- David Burrier Corn for ethanol grown totaled 458 million bushels in September that is a 2.8% increase over September 2015. 5.2 million Bushels of corn ethanol 6 million bushels more than the USDA estimate this is due solely to increased driving and extra gallons consumed. The Ethanol business is increasing their efficiency to 2.85 gallons per bushel of corn. Six months ago I reported that China was going to lower the imports of driers distiller grain (this is part of the process of ethanol). In August they imposed an anti dumping duty, which means their imports decreased by 33.8%. Which means through August their imports were down by 46% from the same period a year ago practically drying up the market. This has pushed more in the domestic market. Mexico passed a fuel regulation increasing ethanol to 5.8%. Biodiesel blending incentives expire at the end of this year. Biodiesel is in its infancy when compared to biofeul, a blender are paid 50 cents a gallon to blend proponents are pushing for a 2 year extension.

Consumer-Carroll Shry, Jr. Target announced that they will be incorporating vertical farms growing leafy greens and vegetables into a few stores next year. Farm City Literacy program offered throughout the county 96% percent of parents believes that farm literacy teaches children discipline, hard work, and patience. In our local county we had a 32% increase in ag books purchased after instilling the farm city program. The scenic Monocacy River in Carroll and Frederick counties, they are changing the rules and regulations encompass 1,000 feet on both sides of the river that would allow for tree plantings and public access to the river.

Dairy I-Tim Bishton The industry is still struggling with very low milk prices. While prices have risen, they have done so at an extremely slow pace prolonging the downturn. 2017 all milk price projection is relatively flat. US exports posted first gain in 2 years, promising. New record cheese consumption, Americans ate 35 pounds of cheese per person in 2015. New Hampshire, One-sixth of dairies closed . 19 of the states `120 dairies

Dairy II – Jason Myers October 19, 2016 the University Of Maryland Department Of Animal & Avian Sciences sponsored a field day at the Central MD Research Education Center in Clarksville, MD. Some of the topics discussed that day included robotic milkers, SCR collars to monitor activity and rumination of cattle, and the use of milk urea nitrogen levels to evaluate cow nutrition and environmental impacts on the far. There were approximately fifty in attendance, half of which were actively dairy farming. The program was well received and I believe there is a lot of interest in making it an annual event.

Direct Farm Marketing – Katie Kraszewski It's hard to believe, but another holiday season is already upon us. As many people know, the Saturday after Thanksgiving is now known as "Small Business Saturday". This is the perfect opportunity to rethink your marketing strategy to draw new customers in. This is especially true with our value-added commodities. However, if you're a Maryland farm that isn't typically open during the winter months, this is a great time to promote gift certificates. According to the National Retail Federation's Retail Holiday Planning Book, two-thirds of shoppers purchased gift cards in 2015. As a side note, American Express is the company that started this promotion in 2010. On their website (<https://www.americanexpress.com/us/small-business/shop-small/marketing-materials?linknav=us-open-shops-small-storycreator-landing-generic>) they offer free marketing materials to promote your business. It's a simple way to attract to both returning and new customers. Square Up has a few additional suggestions,

including decking out your store (or farm stand, farmer's market booth, etc) or co-hosting an event with other local businesses. The possibilities are endless, and this is the time of year to make sure you have a marketing plan all ready to go.

Upcoming Events: This coming weekend, November 11 and 12, is the 13th annual Small Farms Conference at UMES. There will be several sessions regarding direct marketing, such as bridging the gap between growers and buyers. Coming up this January is the 18th annual Future Harvest conference. There will be lots of great sessions, including how to make your farm brand go viral, exploring different market options, and more.

Farm Bureau – Milly B. Welsh

Maryland Farm Bureau (MFB) stands with the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) in supporting the Urban Agricultural Act of 2016. The Urban Agricultural Act of 2016 is outlined to create new economic opportunities for agricultural cooperatives, rooftops, vertical farms and indoor production, and cutting-edge research. It will also provide new financial tools and support in the form of loans, risk management tools, a new Urban Ag office at USDA, and mentorship and education. The bill will increase access to healthy foods through community gardens and create a healthier environment with soil remediation and urban composting.

Other topics MFB and AFB continue to support: the overturn of the EPA water rule (WOTUS), relaxation of restrictions on trade with Cuba, streamlined bio-tech approvals for imports, expansion of the Patriot Project, implementation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, block a recent IRS proposal that would increase estate taxes.

Maryland Farm & Harvest Season Four: Premieres November 15 at 7pm Airing Tuesdays at 7pm on MPT

- Repeats Thursdays at 11:30pm and Sundays at 6am on MPT
- Repeats Fridays at 7pm on MPT2

The 2016 Agriculture and Environmental Law Conference is scheduled for November 18, 2016 at the Doubletree in Annapolis from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.umaglaw.org/2016ALEIConf for more information. Sessions are: hot legal issues in agriculture, nutrient management regulations, alternative energy, FSMA and water usage, agritourism and zoning, and stormwater management.

The Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) is now accepting resumes for the Director, Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC) position. SMADC was established in 2000 by the Governor's Task Force and the SMADC director reports to the (TCCSMD) Executive Director and the Commission. This position will be located at the TCCSMD headquarters office in Hughesville, MD. The mission of SMADC is to promote diverse, market-driven agricultural enterprises, which coupled with agricultural land preservation, will preserve Southern Maryland's environmental resources and rural character while keeping the region's farmland productive and the agricultural economy vibrant. The Director of the SMADC will be responsible for developing, implementing, and administering all aspects of the SMADC Strategic Plan approved by SMADC and the TCCSMD Executive Board. The position will close **December 5, 2016**.

Field Crops-Donald Maring The American Farm Bureau did a study in 2014 stating that if a wall is built than it could shift 61% of our food production out of the US. Soybeans closed at \$10.00 yesterday and corn closed at \$3.54. Extremely good bases for corn right now, analysts say that there is no true reason for the rally.

Grange – Del. Paul Stull The state grange members just recently concluded a most successful State Convention. The officers of the Grange will be sending a number of resolutions past at the convention to the National Grange office in Washing to be considered for National Policy. It is our hope that some of the issues

will reach our congressional representatives when they are formulating agricultural policy. The Grange membership congratulates Davie Townsend of Middletown, Delaware for being elected President of the National FFA organization. On a personal note, I would like to thank MDA and our executive secretary for a well planned fall tour for the Ag Commission. The Grange members along with other agricultural organizations throughout the state are meeting with their respective local legislative delegations to discuss agricultural topics and policies for consideration during the upcoming legislative session. The Grange members tilling the soil applauds our state Secretary of Agriculture and his staff for extending the deadlines for Cover Crop planting, nutrient applications, and the spreading of liquid manure. The farmers feel the extensions are a common sense approach to the changing weather conditions. The Grange has joined other agricultural organizations to urge food companies to recognize that farmer's sustainability goals can't be realized with the use of modern agricultural practices. Dannon for example is one of several food manufactures that in recent years have taken steps to eliminate GMO ingredients from their products. Grange dairy farmers are showing interest in the manure injection system recently demonstrated in Washington County as a tool to help restore the bay. Some farmers feel the jury is still out on the economics of the system. Cost, power needs, time, labor and regulations... Again it is the farmers who are still the pioneers in helping clean the bay. The system is a product of the Netherlands. The system can be rented from the Soil Conservation District, with cost share which makes it more economical to use.

Horticulture – Cole Mangum Fall season is wrapping up and remaining chrysanthemums across the state are being discounted. It is a later crop than most growers have seen. The fall weather has been moderate with low heat costs which are down 10-15%. Transversely, poinsettias are doing well because of that. White flies are a common pest with them and the pest pressure has been below average thus decreasing the use of neonics. This is the first year natural gas generated electricity (35%) has surpassed coal fired electricity (29%).

Nursery-Marion Mullen MNLGA community service project took place at Frederick Douglas High School, Secretary Bartenfelder helped, raised beds and a hoop house were built. The project was an overwhelming success. Various business owners have collaborated with CCBC horticulture program to develop The American Landscape Institute. This program would allow individuals interested in the horticulture field an education and the ability to become an apprentice for three years with a business. The business would assume the responsibility of paying for the CCBC classes. This program is offering a 2 year certificate or a 3 year AA degree.

Nursery II-Ray Greenstreet Still seeing consolidation of our market. Brickman and valleycrest of completed the merger we are now BrightView. They have taken a totally different model for our industry. One branch will have two branch managers vs. one. They redrew all of the lines on September 23rd right before we started shipping fall pansies. There is movement away from pansies and to viola's because they overwinter better. Deer are still a huge issue. I was on the Anne Arundel committee to define agriculture and agritourism. All the recommendations have been sent in and hopefully the county council will vote at the beginning of 2017. Christmas trees are going to be short this year because this is the first year post the recession.

Organics-Marian Fry

A significant issue at present is the debate over including hydroponic/aquaponics as an acceptable form of growing plants that qualify to be labeled "certified organic." The National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) meets in St. Louis in mid- November to vote on this and other issues. In both the Organic Food Production Act of 1990 and the NOSB's 2010 formal recommendation on Production Standard for Terrestrial Plants in Containers and Enclosures, hydroponic and aeroponic growing techniques are excluded. Proponents of hydroponics contend inputs are "biologically sourced," and should qualify. Opponents cite historic precedent within the industry and existing laws in support of certified organic foods being soil based. Another deterrent to allowing this certification is the depression of prices to US organic farmers from the competition by

imported certified organic hydroponic imports from Canada, Holland, Mexico and other countries where hydroponics can't be sold as organic. As the monetary value of organics grows, so does the belief among many grass roots farmers that "Big Ag" has infiltrated the NOSB and has lobbied USDA to water down requirements for the Certified Organic label to take advantage of higher prices commanded by organic products without honoring the spirit, or, in some cases, the letter of the law regarding organics. As an example, large organic berry grower Driscoll's, revealed to have hydroponic berry systems certified organic, and the agency certifying it both have members on the NOSB. In 2016 there are 52 certified organic hydroponic/aquaponic operations and 69 certified operations which grow crops in containers.

Poultry I-Charles Carpenter

Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. Helped host, in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, an October 14 visit by members of the House of Delegates Environment and Transportation Committee and the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee to a chicken farm in Queen Anne's County.

- The poultry industry gave input into Worcester County poorly drafted zoning ordinance dealing with poultry house construction. There was very little public input prior to the county Planning Commission forwarding a draft to the elected County Commissioners. The poultry industry will be working with the county commissioners to develop a workable, common sense ordinance that we hope is in line with the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. June 2015 voluntary **Best Management Practices for Good Neighbor Relations**.

- Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. hired a Communications Manager, a new position, to develop and coordinate a comprehensive communications program. Former newspaper reporter and editor James Fisher began work October 24.

Poultry II-Michelle Protani-Chesnik The problems with poultry ag and the environmental groups continue, with calls to further regulations in Worcester and Caroline Counties. The Wicomico County situation continues to fester even though regulations were put in place by the County Council and the Environmental groups have resumed harassing the Council in hopes of gaining a health ordinance and to further trample the Right to Farm Bill in this county. Monies held up by the State due to funds held up by the Maryland General Assembly may cause some growers to have their CAFO Permits denied by MDE as they will not have adequate composting or manure storage facilities in place and NRCS monies are not available until after a need for these items / resource concern is shown. This is a real catch 22 for folks that have already heavily invested in their operations. Many Areas on the lower Shore experienced record rainfall in the month of October, this has hampered the harvest especially in the three lower counties and the yields will be off. I would expect the grain harvested to have a higher level than normal of mycotoxins.

Turf – Tom Warpinski Sod growers are experiencing beautiful weather for the last month or so. Most growers had finished their fall plantings by the end of October. Optimal planting time is the last 2 weeks of September. A few heavy rain events in September set things back a bit for some growers. Late plantings are in need of rain at this time in order to get the grass up and mature enough to get through winter. Overall sod supply is slightly tight to adequate. Heavy flooding from hurricane Matthew down in the Carolinas wiped out quite a few acres of turf. A number of Carolina growers and brokers are purchasing Tall Fescue sod from Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, putting a little pressure on the supply up here. October 25th was the inaugural meeting of the newly formed Mid-Atlantic Sports Turf Managers Association (MASTMA). The meeting was held at M&T Bank Stadium, where the Ravens play. It was a full day seminar offering 6 pesticide certification credits. An excellent program of speakers and tour of the stadium playing field was enjoyed by all. The field is

utilizing grow lights 14hrs. per day during the fall. This is to compensate for the shade cast by the stadium and to augment the diminished intensity of the sun at this time of the year. On a national note, the reconstruction of the turf panels is complete at the Mall in Washington D.C. Construction included drainage catch basins to collect rainfall to be used to irrigate the grass. New curbs, blended topsoil and grass was installed. The Tall Fescue sod was supplied by a grower in New Jersey. The big test will be the Inauguration in January. The Turfgrass Producers International association will be having their international education conference and field day down in Tampa, FL on January 20 to 23, 2017. More info at www.TurfGrassSod.org

Vegetable – Alison Howard This fall we were part of the MDA Canadian inbound marketing program. As part of this program, potential buyers from Canada traveled to Maryland vegetable farms in the hopes to export Maryland products to Canada. For a farmer to sell on the wholesale level GAP certification is necessary with this the prevention of bacteria critical however, to keep produce fresh they must be packed with ice. Ice and an ice machine can harbor bacteria and this can be pretty dangerous. The Canadian buyers explained that the end user is requesting no ice packed vegetables because more can be shipped and it is more cost effective. The vegetables are rehydrated once they arrive at their destination. On a regional level, the heat of July was really hard on our late summer crops. Lots of bacterial disease.

University-Dave Myers for Dean Beyrouthy Update on from the college: We have hired a new crop pathologist. We still on the search for a soil fertility specialist. On the UME front we have a new urban ag educator in Baltimore City. Andrew Ness has been hired in Harford County he has a background in crops pathology. Interviews for the Frederick County agent. Carroll county associate agent hired. Also an energy specialist to be hired and will be stationed at WMREC. We are still looking for a forage specialist. Howard, Charles and Wicomico not covered. Currently the ag program leader is a national search with three potential candidates. We have a new director of communications for AGNR his name Graham Binder. Fair labor standards act puts a minimum salary of \$47,500 for all. The professional tract will have a rank system that will allow steps to parallel to a tenure track position.

YFAB-Shelby Watson Hampton Update from MALPF board and their definition of Agritoursim.

Updates

Matt Teffeau-see attachment

Speakers

"Maryland's Best Program and the Maryland Farmers Market Program" by Stone Slade and Shelby Hampton-Watson, Maryland Department of Agriculture

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Rhodes

