



**COUNTY OF SULLIVAN
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE
SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
100 NORTH STREET
PO BOX 5012
MONTICELLO, NY 12701-5192**

Sullivan County Agriculture and Sustainability Policy Committee

**May 3, 2012 AGENDA
1:30 PM**

Committee Members:

Cindy Kurpil Gieger, Chair, Cora Edwards, Vice-Chair, Jonathan Rouis, Alan Sorensen, Kitty Vetter

Reports:

1. SASD Monthly Report
2. Agricultural Planner Report – Jen Mall

Discussion:

1. Developments in formation of Agriculture-Sustainability Committee
2. Developments in formation Agriculture and Climate Action Planning Advisory Boards
3. Launching of Sustainable Sullivan Website

Resolutions:

1. **For the continued support and continuation of the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone.**

Announcements:

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY
POLICY COMMITTEE FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT AND CONTINUATION OF
THE SULLIVAN-WAWARSING REAP ZONE**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone was designated by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1999, through the efforts of Congressman Maurice Hinchey; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone comprises all of the County of Sullivan and the Town of Wawarsing; and

WHEREAS, REAP Zones are designed to address the economic and community development issues of rural areas, including stagnant or declining employment, low-density settlement patterns, geographic isolation and disconnection from markets and centers of finance, continued population loss, and economic distress; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone (“Board”) has worked since the Zone’s inception to advance combat these issues through support of various projects and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone designation and the Board’s work have lent strength to many federal grant proposals, resulting in the award of grants to undertake important community and economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, the REAP Zone designation is set to sunset on September 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature feels that the continued existence of the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone and the continued work of the Board are of utmost importance to Sullivan County’s economic and social well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby affirms its support for the continuance of the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sullivan County requests action by U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, and Congressman Maurice Hinchey to enact federal legislation that would reauthorize the REAP zone, and continue the Sullivan-Wawarsing REAP Zone, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Legislature shall transmit an electronic copy of this resolution to President Barack Obama, Senator Chuck Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator John Bonacic, Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther, the County of Ulster, the Town of Wawarsing, and all Towns in Sullivan County.