

Susan Wine
507 Albany Post Road
New Paltz, New York 12561

June 21, 2010

Ms. Toni Hokanson, Supervisor
Town of New Paltz
1 Veterans Drive
New Paltz, New York 12561

Dear Supervisor Hokanson:

In January, 2008, subsequent to the ZBA's negative decision concerning my farm winery moving to a New Paltz location, I filed a formal request asking that the Town Code be amended in order to clarify the definition of Agriculture for the purposes of Use, and I met with the Town Board. To my knowledge, that matter was referred to the Planning Board, where it was commented upon, and then set aside. In the wake of the decision of the Appellate Court not to review the Town statutes in question *de novo*, I would like to renew my request for such a clarifying amendment.

As the Code now reads, since the determination of the Building Inspector in our case stands, any agricultural business, new or old, utilizing a building for processing or sales in the Town of New Paltz, is vulnerable to the same type of arbitrary determination that cost me my business and my livelihood. Certainly, as things stand, no farm winery could ever open in New Paltz and that is a contradiction for a community that prides itself on being supportive of rural life and agricultural businesses.

The enactment of a clear definition for the purposes of use should not be difficult since there are definitions of agriculture that have been adopted into the Town Code, outside of the Zoning Law, in just the past two years. Such definitions utilize the full definition of "farm" found in State law. At the very least, if it is the intention of the Town to utilize the definitions of agriculture found in the Clearing and Grading and Steep Slope sections of the zoning law as the definition of agriculture for the purpose of use, that should be made clear for those unsuspecting future taxpaying agricultural entrepreneurs who might venture into your domain.

I'll look forward to your response.

Very truly yours,

Susan Wine

CC: The New Paltz Times