

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

10. Mushroom Farm Zoning Review (Z-8513)

- Bill Hicks, 6272 Colonel Talbot Road – requesting that the by-law amendment respect the conditions of the minor variance 146-15; indicating that, at the variance meeting, the owner of 1668 Colonel Talbot Road suggested that his farm was going to be a hydroponic operation mushroom farm; advising that, for that type of property, there is only two viable mushroom operations that he knows of, one is hydroponic and one uses compost; pointing out that the hydroponic method is much more environmentally friendly than the compost method; pointing out that it uses water and sawdust as the medium and the water and sawdust is recyclable and reused as opposed to the compost type where they use compost; noting that compost can only be used once and then it is waste and it has to be taken away just as it is taken in; indicating that, at the minor variance meeting, they did not have any objections to the minor variance because the owner was proposing a hydroponic method with everything done according to the conditions that were put on it; indicating that, as they have previously appeared before the Committee of Adjustment with their concerns in regards to the potential negative impact of the compost type facility, asking that the City clarify the status of the minor variance and ensure that the conditions of the variance will still be in effect. (See attached communication).
- Don Coleman, 6231 Colonel Talbot Road – advising that he lives right across from the proposed mushroom farm; indicating that he was led to believe that it was to be strictly hydroponic; wondering, if there is a change, as has been suggested, to go to traditional mushroom farming, that be looked at for the setbacks, etc.
- John Bowles, 6108 Colonel Talbot Road – advising that his major concern is with respect to the water supply as they are on wells; indicating that the water supply is not the greatest; having a hydroponic farm is going to require a lot of water; enquiring as to where is this water coming from; expressing concern about the storm water management, as the drain is right in front of his property that goes underneath the highway and on a good rainstorm we have flooding there; and, advising that if you build a large barn there, where is the water going to go, it is not going to go in the land, it is going to go in the drains.