

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes
March 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Mitchell at 7:40 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Mitchell.

Roll Call: Present : Lou Joyce, Al Mitchell, Brian Dolbow, Brian Lorenz. Beth Reilly Twp Committee Liaison. Absent : Jack Schultz, Ron Vassallo, Walt Turner

Also present: Fran Rapa, Regional Manager, New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF).

Approval of the minutes, on motion by Mr. Dolbow, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz, the minutes of January 12, 2017 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

The Board received a presentation by Mr. Rapa on the current status of active applications that NJCF is processing in the Township. Mr. Rapa distributed a report and map of all the preserved lands in the Township and the current NJCF active applications. Currently the McAlonan 2 & 3 properties are moving to contract phase. The Robbins property has not qualified due to problems meeting the minimum tillable acreage requirement but he said an alternative plan is being evaluated by SADC. NJCF submitted applications for the Sickler and Gentile farms in January at the request of the Township. The Board reminded him that there are two other applications that are eligible for funding and suggested they be included in the next funding application round with SADC.

Mr. Rapa also described the various programs that NJCF utilizes to preserve farmland. The Board reminded Mr. Rapa of two other current applications that should be pursued in the next funding round which he said is October.

Mr. Joyce reported that the unencumbered balance in the Township Farmland and Open Space account is \$22,877.82. Funds are currently encumbered to cover soft costs associated with the McAlonan 2 & 3 applications, the Robbins, Sickler and Gentile properties. Recovery of 50% of soft costs for the Chard farm is being pursued. The Township received \$5,100 reimbursement for costs for the Ray property.

New Business:

No new business was presented.

It was announced that the next meeting will be May 11, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm on motion by Ms. Reilly, 2nd by Mitchell by unanimous vote.

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

APPROVED: May 11, 2017