

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes
January 11, 2018

In accordance with Alloway Township Resolution 18-21, Committeewoman Reilly administered the Oath of Office to Jack Schultz, Ron Vassallo and Brian Lorenz for their terms of 1/1/18 to 12/31/19.

Reorganization meeting was presided by Ms. Reilly. Selection of Chairman: Jack Schultz was selected as Chairman on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Vassallo and unanimous vote; Al Mitchell was selected as Vice Chairman on motion by Mr. Schultz, 2nd by Vassallo and unanimous vote. Mr. Joyce was selected as Secretary on motion by Mr. Schultz, 2nd by Mr. Mitchell and unanimous vote.

Designation of schedule of meetings for the 2nd Thursday of odd months in 2018 at 7:30 PM, was approved on motion by Mr. Joyce, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz and unanimous vote. The 2018 meeting schedule adopted is: January 11, March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13, November 8, 2018, and January 10, 2019.

The Regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Schultz at 7:30 pm.

Roll call: Jack Schultz, Al Mitchell, Ron Vassallo, Louis Joyce, Brian Lorenz, Beth Reilly, Liaison.
Absent: Walt Turner, Brian Dolbow.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Schultz.

Approval of the minutes: on motion by Mr. Vassallo, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz, the minutes of November 9, 2017 meeting were approved by unanimous vote with abstention by Mr. Mitchell.

Old Business:

Mr. Joyce presented summaries of correspondence received from Katie Mazzella of SADC to say that there are currently 2 farms in closing review, 1 farm with certified value and 2 farms with Green Light Approval. The report also stated that the current Alloway PIG Fund balance is \$361,800. Next Mr. Joyce reported on correspondence from Fran Rapa of NJ Conservation saying that there is no change in status of the applications from his November report.

Mr. Joyce reported an update on the Township Trust Fund balance. The 2017 beginning cash balance was \$77,149.75. The fund was credited with \$33,231.84 which included interest, the 2016 and 2017 Open Space tax deposits and \$5,100 reimbursement from SADC for the Ray farm expenses. Costs of \$16,512.05 were incurred for ongoing application soft costs, leaving a year end fund balance of \$93,869.54. Currently, \$50,000 are encumbered to cover costs of the five pending applications, leaving a free balance of approximately \$43,870 at this time. Mr. Joyce explained that the Township will receive 50% reimbursement of the soft costs from SADC when the pending properties are settled.

The members then reviewed the revised Project Area Map dated November 16, 2017 and "Project Area Summary Form" from the FY2019 that were submitted to SADC. Additions to the Project Area and properties were discussed. The FY 2019 PIG Grant application lists thirteen properties and 621.25 acres as target farms, and five projects and 173.33 acres with final approval for preservation. The total acreage of preserved farmland reported in the FY 2019 PIG Grant application is 3,185 acres.

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On motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz the final copy of the Project area map dated November 16, 2017 was accepted and approved by the Committee.

New Business:

Ms. Robin Bell appeared to discuss the possibility to submit an application for preservation of her property on Quaker Neck Road in Penton. This property is outside of the Township Project and she was advised to seek approval from Salem County. After a short discussion, Mr. Vassallo questioned why the entire Township was not in its' project area. The Committee will review the project area boundaries at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm on motion of Mr. Vassallo, 2nd by Mr. Mitchell and by unanimous vote.

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

APPROVED: March 8, 2018