

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Committee

Minutes: January 10, 2019

Minutes
January 10, 2019

Mayor McKelvey administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed members.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jack Schultz at 7:35pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Schultz.

Roll call: present - Jack Schultz, Al Mitchell, Lou Joyce , Brian Dolbow, Brian Lorenz, Warren Morgan Twp Committee liaison. Absent- Ron Vassallo, Walt Turner (sick).

Others Present: none

Reorganization: Chairman Jack Schultz on motion by Mitchell, 2nd by Dolbow, unanimously approved.
Vice Chairman Al Mitchell on motion by Schultz, 2nd by Lorenz, unanimously approved.
Secretary Louis Joyce on motion by Mitchell, 2nd by Dolbow, unanimously approved.

Schedule of meeting for 2019 is the second Thursday of alternate months with specific dates of: January 10; March 14; May 9; July 11; September 12; November 14; and January 9, 2020 and was approved on motion by Dolbow, 2nd by Lorenz and unanimously approved.

The **minutes** from the November 8 , 2018 meeting were approved, on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz , all in favor.

Old Business:

Summary of Active Applications:

a. Report from Salem CADB: no report.

b. Report from SADC: Katie Mazzella could not attend but submitted her report by email. Mr. Joyce summarized the Municipal PIG Financial Status report Schedule B that she sent. (copy was sent to all members by Ms. Mazzella). He compared the PIG grant balances from February to December. The reports indicated that in February the Township grant fund balance was \$247,466. After the closings on the McAlonan and Robbins farms, and with encumbrances for Sickler and Gentile, the PIG grant balance in December was \$38,501.

The Committee questioned when the next round of funding will be made available as the FY11 funds have been depleted. Mr. Joyce said he has asked Ms. Mazzella to let us know about future funding.

c. Report from NJCF: no report.

The Township Trust Fund financial information was received from the Township Treasurer. Mr. Joyce reviewed the history of the fund for 2018. The initial fund balance was \$80,905. Expenditures for the year for application soft costs were \$29,412 and income to the fund was \$25,689. The income was from open space tax is \$14,008.50 and reimbursement of 50% of the soft costs from SADC received of \$11,393 from the McAlonan and Robbins farm closings plus \$288 interest. The Open Space/Farmland

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Committee

Minutes: January 10, 2019

Preservation Account 2019 beginning balance was reported as \$77,181. Upcoming costs for the Sickler and Gentile farms soft costs will be deducted from the balance.

The 2020 PIG Grant Application and Target Farm Map were reviewed. The Township application was submitted to SADC on December 8. Mr. Joyce summarized the contents. He reported that the application contains:

- Township Project Area is 6,621 Acres;

- Fifteen (15) target farms;

- Target Farm Acreage is 765 Acres increased from 622 Acres from 2019;

- Total preserved farm acreage in Township is 3,285 Acres;

- Total other preserved lands in Township is 1,804 Acres for a grand total of 5,311 Acres of preserved lands;

- Current number of farms with Final Approval: 2;

The Committee discussed contacting owners of target farms to determine their interest in continuing in the program.

The 2020 Farmland preservation map, with the latest additions to the Township Project Area and Target Farms was distributed to members, and reviewed.

New Business:

Mr. Joyce reviewed proposed amendments to the State rules for municipal farmland preservation programs.

Public Comment: Ed Rieck and Walter Rieck questioned technical issues with their applications. No other public comment was received.

Chairman Schultz announced the next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2019.

Meeting adjourned 8:25 pm on motion of Mr. Mitchell, 2nd Mr. Lorenz and unanimously approved.

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

Approved: March 14, 2019