

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes

September 10, 2020

The meeting was conducted by a Zoom virtual platform. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schultz at 7:32pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Schultz.

Roll call: present - Jack Schultz, Al Mitchell, Lou Joyce, Brian Lorenz, Talia Priore, Warren Morgan, Twp committee liaison.

Absent- Walt Turner, Kurt Sickler

Others present: Katie Mazzella, SADC, Randall Scheule, PP, Township Planner

The minutes from the July 9, 2020 meeting were discussed. Minutes approved on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz, all in favor.

Old Business:

Report from Salem County CADB: no report

Report from SADC:

Ms. Mazzella provided a report on active applications. She said that funding on the federal level for the Rieck and Bell applications has been approved and appraisals will be performed. The County has received an application from Donald and Dale Smith. State Direct Easement applications for Mehaffey and Hitchner are proceeding to the survey stage and the Ayars application is at the appraisal stage.

Additionally she reported that the State funding allocation for the 2021 year is \$60MM and each township may receive a Base Grant plus competitive funding. Cindy Roberts is preparing a workshop for municipal officials that should be available in October.

Finally she reported that the Township PIG Grant balance is \$528,254.09.

Report from NJCF: no report.

Report from Township Planner Randall Scheule proceeded. Mr. Scheule has been authorized to proceed with the required ten-year update of the Township Farmland Preservation Plan. He explained that the plan is an element in the Township Master Plan. The update is required by SADC to maintain the Township's approval to remain in the Farmland Preservation program and receive State funding. He consulted with the SADC planner early in 2020 and has a scope of work that includes reviewing the role of the Committee in preservation activities and looking at the current and future mapping of the project area and target farms. He will report on identified areas that are impediments to the preservation efforts. The Committee inquired on the timing of the report and it was projected that a report target was the March 2021 meeting. He indicated that upon completion of the update the report will be presented to the Township Planning Board for a public hearing and adoption into the Master Plan.

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The Township Trust Fund balance report from September 10, 2020 was \$114,346.10 accounting for \$168.85 interest earned for 2020. Current encumbrances are \$6,000 to NJCF toward the Parave farm soft costs, and \$10,000 each for Rieck and Bell farms closing costs and the Preservation plan update of \$2,500. Therefore, the available balance is reduced by \$28,500 to \$85,846.10.

New Business:

Mr. Joyce reported that two applications have been received, both on Timberman Road and will be added to the updated PIG Grant application and the Target Farm list and map with the 2022 update.

Mr. Joyce reported that the 2022 Annual PIG Planning Application will be discussed and presented for approval at the November meeting. He informed Committeeman Morgan that a Township Resolution supporting the application will be required prior to submitting the PIG Grant to SADC.

Public Comment:

No comment received.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm on motion by Mr. Mitchell, with 2nd by Mr. Schultz unanimously approved.

Next Meeting date is November 12, 2020

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

Approved: November 12, 2020