

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes

September 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Mitchell at 7:30pm. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Mitchell.

Roll call: present - Jack Schultz, Al Mitchell, Brian Lorenz, Lou Joyce, Kurt Sickler.

Absent- Walt Turner, John Blankenship, Warren Morgan.

Others present – none

The minutes from the July 14, 2022 meeting were presented. Minutes approved on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz, all in favor.

Old Business:

Report from Salem County. Email from Ms. Alexander said she is waiting additional information from Pierce and Goss.

Report from SADC, Ms. Mazzella Report from SADC: email said the Pierce application is still in green light review and needs additional information and still has not received SADC application from Goss; also the Rieck farm went to settlement on 8/5/22.

No report from NJCF. Mr. Ferber on vacation.

Farmland Preservation Plan Re-exam – Mr. Scheule attended via cell phone. He reviewed his report which stated: the target farm analysis from SADC examined parcels, or adjacent parcels in common ownership, that appear to meet SADC minimum eligibility criteria in the ADA. The web map at the link provided identifies 98 potential target farm parcels in Alloway Township. <https://arcg.is/05W8a4>. The Township's FPP identifies 21 target parcels. (The committee viewed the active SADC mapping on the computer).

Up to this point, the Alloway Agricultural Advisory Committee's recommended Project Area (PA) has focused on farmland-assessed parcels that are outside of the Salem County Project Area. Salem County's Farmland Preservation Plan has been recently updated to include the entirety of the ADA in their PIG project area.

Based on the SADC analysis, the County Plan update, and waning landowner interest, it seems like a good time for the AAC to consider revising the Project Area and expanding the number of target farms. The SADC analysis provides a basis for such an expansion. Resolution of this matter will enable us to finalize the plan update and submit to SADC for review.

On motion by Mr. Mitchell and 2nd by Mr. Schultz and after discussion and review of the maps from SADC the Committee approved revising the project area Map 16 and target farms list to be consistent with the mapping from SADC and the County. Roll call vote provided unanimous approval.

Township trust fund: The Township Trust Fund balance report was reviewed. As of 08-18-22 the fund balance was \$97,732.84. It was indicated that the auditors want a "budget of the open space tax" for 2023. The committee discussed future uses of the fund and Mr. Joyce suggested that the budget include expenses for soft costs and Township 20% share of acquisition costs for the two active applications and anticipate two more applications in 2023 at the same budget costs.

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Soft costs @ \$10,000	\$40,000
Acquisition (Township share)	\$60,000
Administration	\$ 6,000
Balance reserved for future	\$ 5,150

Mr. Joyce will send the budget estimate to the Treasurer.

New Business: a request for historic status on the farmhouse at Block 38 Lot 4 from SADC was reviewed. There is no current Township listing of historic properties and members concurred that there was no intrinsic historic attributes to the property and will respond to Mr. Pizzio at SADC.

Public Comment: No public in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm on motion by Mr. Mitchell, with 2nd by Mr. Lorenz and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: November 10, 2022

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

Approved: November 10, 2022