

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes

November 10, 2022

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

Roll call: present - Jack Schultz, Al Mitchell, Brian Lorenz, Lou Joyce, Walt Turner, John Blankenship
Absent-, Warren Morgan, Kurt Sickler.
Others present – Randy Scheule, Township Planner.

The minutes from the September 8, 2022 meeting were presented. Minutes approved on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz, all in favor.

Old Business:

No report from Salem County.

Report from SADC: Ms. Mazzella reported via email from SADC: email said the Pierce application needs additional information on annual income; and still has not received SADC application from Goss; SADC received an application from the Van Meter Farm on Roberts Rd as a direct easement application, with one small lot over the Stow Creek line. It has been selected for funding and will proceed toward appraisals.

No report from NJCF.

Farmland Preservation Plan Re-exam – Mr. Scheule attended. He reviewed the updated mapping and project area.

Based on the SADC analysis, the County Plan update, and waning landowner interest the map revises the Project Area to include the entire Township and expands the number of target farms from 21 to 98. Resolution of this matter will enable us to finalize the plan update and submit to SADC for review. The Committee members concurred to include the map and target farm list in the reexam and submit to SADC. Mr. Scheule stated that upon approval by SADC the Plan will be given to the Planning Board for public hearing and adoption into the Township Master Plan.

Township trust fund: The Township Trust Fund balance report was reviewed. As of 10-04-22 the fund balance was \$111,425.84. Expenditures in 2022 included soft costs (appraisal, survey, title) for the Bell and Rieck farms, plan reexam and admin costs. Income of \$14,500 was received from the farmland preservation tax and \$10,693 from SADC as 50% share of the soft cost expenses.

New Business:

Mr. Joyce presented the 2024 PIG grant application and draft Township resolution of approval for discussion. The application will include the updated map and target farm list.

The Committee approved the 2024 PIG grant application for submission to Township Committee and to SADC on Motion by Mr. Turner, 2nd by Mr. Mitchell all in favor.

The meeting schedule for 2023 will continue as the 2nd Thursday at 7:30pm on January 12, March 9, May 11, July 13, September 14, November 9. Approved on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Turner with a unanimous vote of members.

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes

November 10, 2022

Discussion proceeded on the status of some preserved farmland, held by NJDEP, that is not being used for agriculture and not planted as cropland. Specific farms mentioned were the Haskett and Buckley farms. Committee members will follow up with the state agencies.

Public Comment: No public in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm on motion by Mr. Mitchell, with 2nd by Mr. Lorenz and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: January 12, 2023

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

Draft: subject to approval and next regular meeting.