

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes

January 12, 2023

The members were given their Oath of Office by Committeeman Warren Morgan.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schultz at 7:40pm. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Schultz.

Roll call: present - Jack Schultz, Brian Lorenz, Lou Joyce, Walt Turner, John Blankenship, Warren Morgan
Absent- Al Mitchell (excused illness)

Others present – Katie Mazzella, SADC; Rob Ferber, NJCF

The minutes from the November 10, 2022 meeting were presented. Minutes approved on motion by Mr. Lorenz, 2nd by Mr. Turner, all in favor.

Old Business:

Report from Salem County: Mr. Joyce relayed information from Ms. Alexander that the Pierce application did not qualify due to the annual revenue requirement and that she has not had any response from the Goss applicant since sending the application on 6-3-22. She will also scan the County's applications for possible acquisitions.

Report from SADC: Ms. Mazzella reported same results for Pierce and Goss; SADC received an application from the Van Meter Farm on Roberts Rd as a direct easement application and they are proceeding; she said that one of the lots on the Boy Scouts property has a Green Acres easement recorded on it.

Report from NJCF: Mr. Ferber said they will compare lists with the Township target farms; he said that their priorities are influenced by the Delaware River Watershed Initiative and open space.

Farmland Preservation Plan Re-exam – Mr. Scheule contacted Mr. Joyce to report that he is working to address review comments recently received from Tommy Allen at SADC. Edits and mapping should be completed shortly and resubmitted to SADC.

Township trust fund: The Township Trust Fund balance report was reviewed, and the fund balance was \$111,425.84. including the \$10,693 from SADC as 50% share of the soft cost expenses.

New Business:

Mr. Joyce described the resolution he prepared for Township Committee that would revise the name of the Board to be the Agricultural Advisory Committee and to become consistent with current SADC rules.

Discussion again 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. Follow up with the state agencies may proceed to point out that the 'unfarmed' lands cause harm to adjacent active farms through proliferation of weeds that occurs by allowing good agricultural lands to remain fallow.

Public Comment: No public in attendance.

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Board

Minutes

January 12, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm on motion by Mr. Lorenz, with 2nd by Mr. Turner and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: March 9, 2023

Louis C. Joyce
Secretary

Approved : March 9, 2023