

Alloway Township Agriculture Advisory Committee

Minutes

March 14, 2024

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, Lou Joyce, Brian Lorenz, Warren Morgan.

Absent- Michael Hitchner, John Blankenship, Brian Leady Committee Liaison.

Others present – Katie Mazzella, SADC

Minutes from January 11, 2024 were approved on motion by Mr. Mitchell, 2nd by Mr. Lorenz with unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Report from Salem County: No updates available.

Report from SADC: Ms. Mazzella report included: status of inspection of Taffett farm; the SADC will be finalizing the Soil Protection Standards after a review of comments on 3/15; the Statewide Formula for Valuation will be completed during this year with a 2 year pilot rollout and applicants can pause their application in anticipation of new valuation; has received an application from Britt Williams; cost share grants for deer/bear fencing available; working to settle on Fred VanMeter farm.

Report from NJCF: Mr. Ferber sent word he would not be available.

Farmland Preservation Plan Update: Members were issued a copy of the 2023 Update to the Farmland Preservation Plan. Mr. Joyce reported that the Township CFO submitted to the SADC for 50% of the cost for preparing the 2023 Plan update in the amount of \$3,170.

Letters to landowner of Target farms: it was discussed how to reach out to prospective applicants; the committee agreed that a postcard be sent and refer to the SADC interim valuation process included on the Township website; The postcard will contain contact information for the Township and Ms. Mazzella at SADC. Mr. Joyce will inquire about getting mailing labels for direct mail.

Township trust fund: no change from January.

New Business: After receipt of the report from Ms. Mazzella, the committee considered making the Williams application a local application for funding.

Motion by Mr. Morgan, 2nd by Mr. Mitchell to recommend to Township Committee to accept the application for funding for the Williams farm and execute the SADC documents was approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comment: No public in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm on motion by Mr. Mitchell, with 2nd by Mr. Lorenz and unanimously approved.

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Louis Joyce,
Secretary

Next Meeting: May 9, 2024

Approved : DRAFT subject to approval at the next meeting.