

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
30 Schuyler Place, 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
April 1, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Keller at 7:42 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Dale Davis
Louise Davis
Harvey Ort
Kenneth Wightman

Also in attendance:

Bryan Lofberg, SADC
Peter Nitzsche, Morris County Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Staff in attendance:

W. Randall Bush
Katherine Coyle
Jennifer McCulloch

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Chairman Keller announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided and filed with the Town of Morristown, the Morris County Clerk, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 10, 2009 and the March 11, 2010 meetings were not available.

On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member D. Davis, the board approved the minutes of the January 14, 2010 regular meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: Wightman

OPEN TO PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member L. Davis, the board closed the open portion of the meeting and voted to conduct a closed session.

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 8:30 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Farrand 5 Farm, Washington Twp: Resolution 2010-06: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board adopted Resolution 2010-06. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Farrand 6 Farm, Washington Twp: Resolution 2010-07: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board adopted Resolution 2010-07. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

At this point member Ort left the meeting room.

Hickey Farm, Washington Twp: Resolution 2010-08: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board adopted Resolution 2010-08. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Wightman and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

At this point member Ort returned to the meeting room.

At this point member D. Davis left the meeting room.

Post Farm, Chester Twp: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-09: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owners of the Post Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-09. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

At this point member D. Davis returned to the meeting room.

At this point member Ort left the meeting room.

R. Smith Farm, Washington Twp: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-10: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owner of the R. Smith Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-10. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Wightman and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

At this point member Ort returned to the meeting room.

McLaughlin Farm, Washington Twp: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-11: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owners of the McLaughlin Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-11. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

Terry Farm, Washington Twp: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-12: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owner of the Terry Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-12. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

At this point member Ort left the meeting room.

Harvestone Farm, Washington Twp: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-13: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owners of the Harvestone Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-13. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Wightman and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

At this point member Ort returned to the meeting room.

Richardi Farm, Washington Twp: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-14: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owners of the Richardi Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-14. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

Lare Farm, Chester and Mendham Twps: Offer to Purchase Development Easement and Resolution 2010-15: Final Approval. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the board agreed to make an offer to the owner of the Lare Farm for the amount agreed upon during Closed Session and adopted Resolution 2010-15. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

RIGHT TO FARM

Stephens Farm – Ms. Coyle informed the board that both parties agreed to participate in the voluntary Mediation Program offered by the SADC. The mediation date was set for April 9, 2010.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

OLD BUSINESS

WTMUA Notice of Intent: Condemnation in the ADA – R. Smith Farm & Searles Farm. Ms. Coyle provided the status of the case. The SADC had not yet determined whether the latest WTMUA's submittal to supplement the original Notice of Intent is complete and meets regulatory requirements. If the NOI is deemed complete, the SADC will review it at their April 23, 2010 meeting. At its March 11, 2010 meeting, the CADB set a date for a Public Hearing. The hearing will occur on Thursday, May 6, 2010. The time and location have not yet been determined.

NEW BUSINESS

Davidson Farm (Malinowski), Washington Twp. – equine proposal. Ms. Coyle informed the board that Ms. Mia Davidson, owner of the preserved farm, is in the process of marketing her farm for sale. Ms. Davidson submitted a new agricultural proposal for her farm. The new proposal was for an equine operation. Ms. Davidson wished to receive a determination from the board as to whether the proposal would be permitted by the Deed of Easement and the board's Equine Policy. She would share the board's decision with prospective buyers who may be interested in starting an equine operation. Ms. Coyle presented the proposal to the board and the board reviewed it. On motion of member L. Davis, seconded by member D. Davis, the board agreed that the Davidson proposal comports with Morris CADB's Policy: P-15, "Equine Activities on Preserved Farmland" and the Deed of Easement for the property. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, D. Davis, L. Davis, Ort, Wightman and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Staff was directed to notify the landowner in writing regarding the board's decision.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member L. Davis, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Coyle
Director