

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
30 Schuyler Place, 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
January 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Keller at 7:34 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Rick Desiderio
Kathy Hammond
Harvey Ort

Members with an excused absence:

Dale Davis
Kenneth Wightman

Also in Attendance:

Freeholder Deborah Smith
William Roehrich, Washington Township Liaison

Staff in attendance:

Deena Leary
Christine Marion
W. Randall Bush, Esq.
Katherine Coyle

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

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

BOARD REORGANIZATION

The Board and staff welcomed Freeholder Deborah Smith. Ms. Leary informed the Board members that Freeholder Smith is the Freeholder Deputy Liaison to the Division of Planning and Preservation. Freeholder Smith thanked the members for their volunteer service and offered her assistance to the Board members and staff.

The Board and staff welcomed Ms. Kathy Hammond. The Board of Chosen Freeholders appointed Ms. Hammond to serve as public member for a 4-year term.

The Board members and staff introduced themselves to Freeholder Smith and Ms. Hammond.

Election of Officers

Chairman Keller turned the meeting over to Ms. Coyle for the purpose of electing new officers. Ms. Coyle served as temporary Chairman and took nominations for the position of Chairman.

Chairman

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, Mr. Gregory Keller was nominated for Chairman. There being no other nominations, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Mr. Keller was re-elected Chairman. Chairman Keller chaired the meeting from this point forward.

Vice-Chairman

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, Mr. Kenneth Wightman was nominated for Vice-Chairman. There being no other nominations a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Mr. Wightman was re-elected Vice-Chairman.

Secretary

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Desiderio, Ms. Aimee Ashley Myers was nominated for Secretary. There being no other nominations a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Ms. Ashley Myers was re-elected Secretary.

Meeting Dates Resolution

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board members unanimously approved Resolution 2016-01, which established the time, date, place and agenda for the meetings of 2016 and January 2017. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Mission Statement

The Board members reviewed the Mission Statement. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board reaffirmed the Mission Statement without change. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board members approved

The December 10, 2015 meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.
Aye: Desiderio, Ort and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: Ashley Myers and Hammond

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

At this point, Freeholder Smith left the meeting room.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, Chairman Keller announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Morris CADB considered closing the open portion of the meeting in order to discuss matters related to the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property, and litigation in Closed Session. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Ort, the Board voted to conduct a Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 9:00 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Rowe Farm, Mendham Borough. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board directed staff to request information from Mendham Borough per the Board's discussion during Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

Koehler Farm, Rockaway Township. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board directed staff to draft a preliminary approval resolution per the Board's discussion during Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

Pultz Farm, Washington Township. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Ort, the Board agreed to preserve the farm without SADC cost-share. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller
Nay: None Abstain: None

Scheller Farm, Washington Township. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Ort, the Board agreed to pay for a 4,500 sq ft area of the farm with 100% County funding (the area will be covered by the farmland easement). A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Windfall Farm, Washington Township. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Ashley Myers, the Board directed staff to send a letter to the landowners per Policy: P-10. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

CADB Policies - review. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that the SADC's new RTF Process Rules have superseded the CADB's RTF Hearings Policy (Policy: P-6) and the policy is no longer needed. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Ort, the Board voted to rescind Policy: P-6. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

Monitoring - Western Region. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that monitoring of Western Region farms had been completed.

Legislative Updates. Legislative updates were shared with the Board via email prior to the meeting.

RIGHT TO FARM

There were no Right to Farm matters to review.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to review.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2016-02: Final Approval: Konkus Farm, Chester Twp. On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Ort, the Board adopted Resolution 2016-02. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Desiderio, Hammond, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member Ort, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Coyle". The letters are cursive and fluid.

Katherine Coyle
Director