

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
30 Schuyler Place, 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
February 18, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Keller at 7:33 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Dale Davis
Harvey Ort

Also in attendance:

William Roehrich, Washington Township Liaison
Bryan Lofberg, SADC Staff

Staff in attendance:

Frank Pinto (arrived at 8:07 p.m.)
W. Randall Bush
Katherine Coyle
Jennifer McCulloch

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Secretary Ashley Myers 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.

Staff noted that because the meeting recorder was not available, the meeting would not be recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 10, 2009 and the January 14, 2010 meetings were not available.

OPEN TO PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

CLOSED SESSION #1

On motion of member Ashley Myers, seconded by member D. 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 7:45 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

No actions were taken as a result of Closed Session.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

Federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program funding (FRPP) – Ms. Coyle informed the board that representatives from two non-profits had contacted her regarding the availability of FRPP funding. The board discussed the matter and agreed to not accept the funding due to the impervious cover restrictions required by the program. Ms. Coyle explained that there are exemptions to the restrictions, but that the highest allowable impervious cover percentage would be 6% (the standard is 2%)

Soil and Water Conservation Grant Funding – Ms. Coyle and Mr. Lofberg informed the board that the SADC has approximately \$405,000 available for soil and water conservation grants. Grants are available to eligible landowners to fund up to 50% of the costs of approved soil and water conservation projects. Landowners apply directly to local Soil Conservation Districts, which assist in developing farm conservation plans. Farms must be permanently preserved or enrolled in an eight-year preservation program.

RIGHT TO FARM

Stephens Farm – Ms. Coyle informed the board that the SADC was processing the complaint. Information about the voluntary Mediation Program was also supplied to the farmer and the complainant.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 2010-03: Revised Preliminary Approval – McDermott Farm. Ms. McCulloch informed the board that the preliminary approval resolution had to be revised to include two additional residences in existence on the farm. On motion of member Ort, seconded by member D. Davis, the board adopted Resolution 2010-03. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Ort and Keller

Nay: None Abstain: Ashley Myers

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

CLOSED SESSION #2

On motion of member D. Davis, seconded by member Ashley Myers, 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 9:45 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

No actions were taken as a result of Closed Session.

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 D. Davis, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Coyle
Director