

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
October 30, 2024
(Held remotely via Webex)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Davis at 7:32 p.m. Members present:

Aimee Ashley Myers
Frank Carrajat
Thomas Galfo
Harvey Ort
Jay Thomson

Members with an excused absence:

Conor Evans

Also in attendance:

Peter Nitzsche, RCE
Jessica Brandeisky, SADC

Staff in attendance:

Joseph Barilla
Staci Santucci, Esq.
Katherine Coyle

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Chairman Davis 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 Clerk of the Morris County Board of County Commissioners, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger and posted on the Morris County website.

Ms. Coyle announced that the meeting was being held remotely via WebEx and was being recorded. Ms. Coyle provided instructions for the public to provide comments during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Carrajat, the Board members approved the September 5, 2024 Open Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

On motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Carrajat, the Board members approved the September 5, 2024 Closed Session meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

On motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Carrajat, the Board members approved the October 8, 2024 Open Session special meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Jessica Brandeisky (SADC) addressed the Board regarding the Next Generation Farmer Program and stated that the SADC is seeking input from the agricultural community via an on-line survey.

Ms. Landi Simone informed Ms. Brandeisky regarding a scholarship program.

RIGHT TO FARM

Gooserock Farm, Montville Township: Public Hearing. Ms. Coyle provided a summary of the application.

Steven Schepis, Esq., attorney for Lou Caggiano, neighboring property owner, questioned Ms. Simone regarding zoning, setbacks, source of electricity for the electric fence.

Mr. Caggiano addressed the Board regarding the ROW, access to the shed, and aesthetics.

Mr. Schepis suggested screening, moving the shed or using a different structure.

Board members discussed the option of using of a privacy fence.

Several Board members asked to visit the farm.

On motion of member Ort, seconded by member Galfo, the Board voted to schedule member site visits to the farm. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

Evergreen Realty, LLC, Washington Township: request for SSAMP. The matter was adjourned per the Applicant's request.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR & ATTORNEY

Monitoring – Western Region. Ms. Coyle informed the Board that monitoring of the Western Region was underway.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-07: Tranquility Farm, Chester Township: agricultural labor housing. On motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Ort, the Board members approved Resolution 2024-07. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ashley Myers, Carrajat, Galfo, Ort, Thomson and Davis

Nay: None Abstain: None

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member Galfo, seconded by member Thomson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine Coyle
Director