



# Township of Pittsgrove

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## Agriculture Advisory Committee

Facsimile:

(856) 358-  
3055

Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
May 20, 2020

1. Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Millard Paulus at 7:46 p.m...
2. Flag Salute
3. Open Public Meeting Statement: in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the date of this meeting was duly advertised by a notice published in The Daily Journal, South Jersey or Elmer Times. Change of format notice transmitted to the Elmer Times.
4. Attendance: Millard Paulus, Ed Myers, Deb and Herb Wegner, Eric Harz, Katie Mazzella and Sally Birdsall.
5. Approval of the minutes of the January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Reorganization Meeting. *Motion to approve by Herb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed, all in favor.*
6. New Business:

Proposal for a new 10-year Preservation Plan – Sally Birdsall. Sally went over her proposal and her goals and objectives. Most of the input would come from the Ag Committee. She won't have the mapping in it that a larger firm could provide. She answered questions from the committee and left the meeting. Decision on acceptance to be determined at a later date.

Pittsgrove Day – May 16, 2020 postponed. May be held towards the Fall per Eric. He'll keep us advised.

New application – Henry Frohlich. Deb and Herb visited the property on 5/17/20. Millard also stopped by. Millard checked the state mapping system and this land has high priority for preservation and prime soil. All 3 noted that the property is for sale and that the house is in poor condition and would probably be torn down. It's a corner lot with good road

frontage and the property itself is lovely. Katie suggested that the owner take a (1) acre, non-severable exception for the house. Eileen will contact the owner about that. Millard wondered if the sale would cause problems and Katie stated the we couldn't appraise the property under state rules if it was still for sale. She said the county could be different. Preservation acceptance deferred until the exception area is decided.

Ag Committee Membership - Sean Collins application reviewed. Stephanie Hannold Shields was appointed to the committee in January but hasn't attended any meetings or contacted us. Sean is a young, local farmer and the committee was in favor of appointing him in her place. Eileen will contact him to see if he's still interested and if so, will implement the procedure to have him added as a member.

Food Sector Security Presentation proposed by Tom Hayes (OEM) reviewed. Committee was highly interested in it and thinks winter would be best when the farm community has more free time. Big operations like Bifulco would be invited. Eileen will advise Tom that we would like him to it set up.

Deb and Herb also noted that there is a lot of activity on the Levin properties and that plowing and planting is taking place again.

7. Old Business: status of current application efforts updated by Katie.

Helig/Rizzo – all documents have been sent to the county, ready for settlement.

Bauman/E. Mihalecz – final SADC approval in June.

Teresa Mihalecz – still clearing land and updating application, added a lot.

JWP – market value certified in 12/19. We need an answer from Eric Davis. Eileen said that Doug Fisher was involved but Katie hasn't heard anything about that. Committee discussed upping his per acre price by the maximum allowed of \$700.00/acre. Deb thought we should hold off if Fisher is involved. Eileen will call Eric and get an update.

Nothing new to report on the Crisanti application.

8. Correspondence: none

9. Member Comments: none.

10. Public Comments: none

11. Adjournment: 8:51 p.m. - Millard called for a motion to adjourn but members hung up without one.

**NEXT MEETING IS July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**