



# Township of Pittsgrove

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## Agriculture Advisory Committee

Facsimile:  
(856) 358-  
3055

Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
November 18, 2020

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Millard Paulus at 7:40 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 and posted on the Township website.
4. Attendance: Millard Paulus, Deb and Herb Wegner, Ed Myers, Roger Ward, Sean Collins and Eric Harz.
5. Approval of the minutes of the July 15, 2020 Teleconference Meeting. *Motion to approve by Herb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deb, all in favor.*
6. New Business:

2021 Ag Advisory Budget - \$1500.00 in the local budget.

Committee agreed it was best used for signage, pamphlets, ads for Pittsgrove Day or other outreach projects promoting the benefits of preservation. Katie has information that she could send us on this topic and will do so when she's back in the office. Norm suggested some of the money could be used for replacing the missing "Welcome to Pittsgrove" sign at Exit 35B. New sign could also promote this idea. Committee saw no need to increase the budget amount. Eileen will submit budget as is.

2022 PIG Application – committee reviewed the draft paperwork. Millard thought it was fine. There were no other comments from the members. Eileen will submit as is.

SADC Municipal Competitive Fund Grant is now available on a first come basis. There is an additional \$5,000,000.00 available for preservation funding through that program.

#### New Preservation Application – Emory Dobson

This is his second application; he wants to keep them separate for future real estate transaction purposes. If the committee agrees it would double the costs since appraisals and survey costs would be charged twice. Norm mentioned he applied before and declined the offer after the appraisals. Properties are contiguous with other preserved farms but not each other per Norm. The Dobson lots are separated by Alvine Rd. The easements on them are not an issue per Katie. Norm referred to the Bluepoint mapping system to view both farms. Approval of both applications delayed pending further review. Will be added to the January 2021 agenda.

#### 7. Old Business:

Status of current preservation efforts:

Anne Bauman, Eric Mihalecz – in closing review, should settle early next year.

JWP has accepted their offer. Teresa Mihalecz has been “greenlighted”. Dennis Crisanti is close to state acceptance.

Frohlich Application – committee discussed. Needed to select an exception area and applicant chose to have it where the current house exists. Eileen talked to Mr. Frohlich and he does want to pursue preserving the land. He told Norm the same thing. It does have a sale sign on it so we’ll need to inform him that it can’t be for sale under this program. Katie said to check with Kris Alexander to see what the county position is on this. Application has been pending for months. Committee decided to approve it. *Motion to approve the Frohlich application by Millard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed, all in favor.*

#### 10 Year Preservation Plan Selection of Bidder

Eileen reviewed the two quotes with the committee. After further discussion the members decided on Sally Birdsall’s proposal. It was less expensive and included all the parameters required by the State. *Motion to accept by Roger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed, all in favor.*

#### 8. Correspondence: none

#### 9. Member Comments: Eric said the Economic Development Committee wanted to meet with members of every committee to see how we can work together for the benefit of the township. Eric will let us know if that happens. He suggested letters go out to all, not just targeted farms, about preservation. Should include the economic reasons for keeping farms in the township.

10. Public Comments: none

11. Adjournment: 8:35 p.m. – *Motion to adjourn by Roger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed, all in favor.*

**NEXT MEETING IS JANUARY 20, 2021 - REORGANIZATION**