



# Township of Pittsgrove

---

Agriculture Advisory Committee

Facsimile:  
(856) 358-  
3055

Regular Meeting  
Teleconference Minutes  
July 21, 2021

1. Meeting called to order by Chair, Deb Wegner, at 7:33p.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: Deb & Herb Wegner, Norm Lenchitz, Katie Mazzella, Nick Mesiano, Tim Dixon, Sean Collins and Eileen O'Hara.
5. Approval of the minutes of the May 19, 2021 regular meeting. *Motion to approve by Norm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Herb, all in favor.*
- 6.

New Business:

a) New 10-Year Plan Draft

Committee discussed the plan and were impressed by the thoroughness of it. There were some items that were missing data or unclear. Katie suggested emailing those concerns directly to Sally for correction. More substantial issues can be gone over at the public meeting. Some targeted farms are still not included but Eileen has a list of those names. Deb and Norm both mentioned the importance of our local soils and how conducive local conditions are to farming. Nick asked how the new plan is approved and that protocol was covered. Norm suggested using the plan as a teaching tool in the

school district and the committee thought that was a wonderful idea. Norm thought a meeting could be set up with the curriculum committee to propose it.

Nick mentioned that the state funded a cold storage facility in Vineland. Norm said it's the #1 cold storage facility on the East Coast. It's another important piece of the local farm economy.

Sally will be attending the September meeting to go over any concerns the committee has with the draft.

- b) Preservation Alert – is up on the website and will remain there.
- c) Outreach letters went out on 7/12/21 but no response from anyone yet.

## 7. Old Business:

Status of current preservation efforts: Katie

T. Mihalecz– State will do final approval at their September meeting, Title and survey to follow.

JWP – have closing documents but attorney reviews are backed up, should be done in August.

Dobson/Burt – “Greenlight” process complete, waiting for appraisals.

Dietrich – paperwork is complete but Katie doesn't have it yet because clearing needs to be finished before state can approve. Eileen said they have some medical issues which are slowing that process down. Norm offered his help; Deb said the Davis brothers might be willing too. Eileen will mention that the next time she talks with them. It was a very nice gesture that they will appreciate.

Crisanti – has signed the sales agreement, local signatures complete and document forwarded to Kris per Eileen. Sale resolution will be on the 7/28 Township Committee agenda.

Stephens – Eileen was in contact with Dr. Bob and his application is complete. He is supposed to drop it off at the office.

Bolnick – Katie has an application from the buyer who wants to preserve about 120 acres. Sale is not yet final.

## 8. Correspondence: none

9. Member Comments:

Eileen said that the “Blueprint” Mapping webinar is available for viewing at the [anjec.org](http://anjec.org) website.

10. Public Comments:

Nick is still excited about the preservation program and talks to legislators and anyone else who is interested about it. He discussed his own farming plans and hopes to preserve that land in the future.

11. Adjournment: 8:15 p.m. – *Motion to adjourn by Norm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, all in favor.*

**NEXT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**