



Township of Pittsgrove

Agriculture Advisory Committee

Facsimile:
(856) 358-
3055

Reorganization Meeting
Teleconference Minutes
January 19, 2022

1. Meeting called to order by Secretary, Eileen O'Hara, at 7:35p.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: Norm Lenchitz, Sean Collins, Millard Paulus, Katie Mazzella, Kevin Yeagle Eileen O'Hara, Nick Messiano and Chuck Hughes.
5. Designation of Alternate to Vote: ***Motion to approve Sean as a voting member for this meeting by Norm, 2nd by Millard, all in favor.***
6. Membership & Officer Appointments (Chair & Vice-Chair): No other nominees were proposed for Chair & Vice-Chair. Deb and Herb are willing to continue in those positions. Millard wants to be an alternate, Sean is willing to become a regular member. ***Motion to accept the committee, as discussed, by Millard, 2nd by Norm, all in favor.***
7. Approval of the 2022 Ag Advisory Meeting Dates: 3/16, 5/18, 7/20, 9/21, 11/16, 1/18/23 (Reorganization). ***Motion to approve by Millard, 2nd by Sean, all in favor.***
8. Approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2021 regular meeting. ***Motion to approve by Sean, 2nd by Norm, all in favor.***
9. New Business:
 - a) 2023 PIG application – filed on 12/14/21. All the supporting documentation has been sent to Steve Bruder, SADC.

b) Approval of the new 10-Year Farm Preservation Plan:

Sally presented the draft to the Planning Board at their December meeting. They approved it as part of the Master Plan. *Motion to accept it as the new 10-Year Plan by Norm, 2nd by Millard, all in favor.*

Norm noted he had Sally add Barteas and Cathy's Produce to the Farm Stand List.

c) Open Space Fund: a question arose about how this money can be used. The local open space tax money can be used for green projects, repairs to parks, anything designated as appropriate in the resolution. PIG grant money can only be spent for farm preservation per Katie and SADC regulations.

7. Old Business:

Status of current preservation efforts: Katie, Kris out for most of December so not much has happened.

T. Mihalecz/D. Crisanti – awaiting title and survey work

JWP – working through the subordination process

Dobson- given an offer in December, no response yet

Burt – has accepted their offer

Dietrich – still have to clear acreage to meet the minimum required, Eileen will email to check on their progress.

Stephens – Greenlighted by the state

Bolnick – Zeck is the new owner and his application is in progress, direct state easement.

8. Correspondence: none

9. Member Comments: Norm requested a moment of silence for Tom Figlio, who was a longtime environmental activist and Chair of the Pittsgrove Environmental Commission. His dedication to the township was unparalleled and his loss is enormous.

The committee welcomed Kevin Yeagle the new liaison from the Township Committee. He read the initial paragraph of a letter sent to the mayor regarding the award of PIG grant money to the township. All members should have gotten a copy in their email. If not, contact Eileen.

10. Public Comments: Nick said his 22 acre farm is moving fast now, they have purchased new equipment. He mentioned Starr Horse Farm is back and he's happy that money is being spent on preservation in the township.

11. Adjournment: 8:25 p.m. – *Motion to adjourn by Millard, 2nd by Norm, all in favor.*

NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 16, 2022