

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Frelinghuysen Arboretum, the Haggerty Center Auditorium
53 East Hanover Avenue, Whippany, NJ
May 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roehrich at 5:30 p.m. Members present:

Dale Davis
Harvey Ort
Jay Thomson
Kenneth Wightman

Also in attendance:

Peter Nitzsche, Morris County Rutgers Cooperative Extension
Bryan Lofberg, SADC staff
Tina Bologna, Harding Township Liaison (arrived at 7:45 p.m.)

Staff in attendance:

Frank Pinto
W. Randall Bush, Esq.
Katherine Coyle
Jennifer McCulloch

JOINT DINNER

Beginning at 5:30 p.m., members of the Morris County Agriculture Development Board participated in a joint dinner with members of the Morris County Board of Agriculture and Douglas H. Fisher, NJ Secretary of Agriculture.

The regular meeting began at 7:36 p.m.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Chairman Roehrich announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided and filed with the Town of Morristown, the Morris County Clerk, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Davis, the board approved the minutes of the April 2, 2009 special meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Ort, Thomson, Wightman and Roehrich

Nay: None Abstain: None

The minutes of the April 2, 2009 regular meeting were not available.

OPEN TO PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Anne Dorsette, from the NJ State Board of Agriculture, asked what issues are most important to the Morris CADB. Mr. Pinto replied that the main issues are a stable source of funding and an extension of the pre-Highlands zoning. Member Thomson replied that clear regulatory guidelines with regard to Right to Farm and Deed of Easement interpretation are also very important. Member Ort stated that rules need to be flexible enough to all farmers to be viable.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion of member Davis, seconded by member Thomson, the board closed the open portion of the meeting and voted to conduct a closed session.

RETURN TO MEETING

The meeting reopened to the public at 8:45 p.m.

ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Actions resulting from Closed Session were addressed during New Business.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR

“Top 5”. Ms. McCulloch and Ms. Coyle directed the board members to the “Top 5” of the month. The top five project activities for the months of April/May were:

1. Applications: Williams, How
2. Pending: drafting 10 SADC applications
3. Other: DeGrande - NJCF Conservation Easement; Mendham Livestock Ordinance
4. Pending: appraisal RFPs
5. Upcoming closings: Lancor, Fairmount

Destruction of Electronic Recordings of Meetings (CADB Policy). Ms. Coyle discussed the need to review existing recordings of CADB meetings to determine which must be destroyed per CADB Policy: P-14. On motion of member Wightman, seconded by member Davis, the board directed staff to determine which recordings of CADB meetings must be destroyed per CADB Policy: P-14. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Davis, Ort, Thomson, Wightman and Roehrich

Nay: None Abstain: None

June meeting. The board discussed the need to reschedule the June meeting in order to give landowners more time to submit applications, but also to ensure that staff will be able to submit

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Bryan Lofberg provided the status of appropriation bills.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of member Thomson, seconded by member Wightman, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Coyle
Assistant Director