

Holland Township
Agriculture Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 3, 2024
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 6:30 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

Present: J. Bonham, S. Dufek, L. LaFevre, B. Kirby-McDonough, L. Wilson, K. Young

Excused: D. Bush, A. Hammerstone, R. Lozowski, C. Frenchu

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act by the Twp. Clerk on December 21, 2023.

June 2024 Minutes Were Approved

Farmland Preservation Applications:

- **Schafer/Cummins**, MPIG, (B6 L62.03, 20.99ac): Scheduled to close on 9/10/24, but postponed due to issues with the NRCS funds transfer.
- **Schmied/Harder**, SADC fee purchase (B6 L2 & L2.06, 116ac): Environmental/due diligence in process.
- **Clark/Tomson**, (B6 L60, 180ac): Applied to SADC to purchase property in fee. Appraisals awarded.
- **Slate**, DE (B24, L6, 65.88ac): After 21 years, this farm closed on 6/14/24.

Other Land Preservation or Business

Tilstra, B22/L52 (23.29ac) Possible Green Acres. No update.

Gombosi, (B17 L24, 101.9ac) No update.

Larry LaFevre said he plans to visit the Zinn farm to ask owners if they are still interested in open space preservation. Also, Larry asked about the new owners of the Eichlin farm (Delcampe).

Annual PIG Application Review & Update

Larry led a review of the 2025 Annual PIG Application. A letter will be submitted to Mr. Steven Bruder of the NJ State Agricultural Development Committee in lieu of a full application. Larry covered the letter as well as a spreadsheet of Holland Township Targeted Farms dated 9/11/24. (All changes are color-coded.) A motion was made to approve the documentation. All who were present approved. After further approval by the Township and the County, the documentation is due to the State by 12/15/24.

2025 Budget

Larry reviewed the proposed budget for 2025. The total of \$11,400 is the same as last year. The budget is due for submission by the end of October.

Alternate Method for Valuation of Farmland Preservation Application

This topic will be discussed at next month's meeting when Alex Hammerstone is present.

Holland Township 150th Anniversary

An upcoming Square Dance will be held on November 2nd at the Riegel Ridge Community Center. The music will feature the Burnt Mills Highballers. Also, there was a brief discussion about the results of Holland School Postcard Contest. The winning postcards are very popular. Special thanks to Laura Wilson for planning and producing the postcards!

Other Business

Larry showed vintage photographs of square dancing at Riegel Ridge.

Larry announced the Holland Township House Decorating Contest. Voting to be held from December 6th through December 24th.

Beverly Kirby-McDonough showed old pictures from “Milford Alive” on loan by Mr. Steven Philkill. The photos are related to Milford Borough.

Public Comment: N/A

Next Meeting(s): November 7th, 2024, 6:30PM

Meeting Adjourned: 7:10PM