

Dutchess County Farmland Protection Board

Meeting Minutes

February 12th, 2018

Present

Gregg Pulver, Chair
Art Collings, Vice Chair
Harry Baldwin
Peter Coon
Ed Hackett
Brian Scoralick
Eoin Wrafter
Jen Fimbel

Absent

Doug Giles
Eric Axelson
Ken Migliorelli
Will Truitt

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Mr. Pulver.

The Minutes of June 1, 2017 were presented and had been previously accepted via email by all Board Members.

A request for a letter of resignation of appointed Secretary Tonya Pulver was requested. Introduction of newly appointed Secretary, Amy Meunier was conducted.

Board Reorganization

Mr. Coon made the motion to nominate Mr. Pulver as Chairman and Mr. Collings as Vice-Chair of the 2018 Ag and Farmland Protection Board. Mrs. Fimble seconded. Motion Carried.

Communication and Announcements-

- A letter from Director Michael Latham of NY Ag and Markets dated February 5, 2018 regarding Broadfork Farm, owned by Lloyd Hicks was sent to Mr. Pulver. The letter requests all pertinent information from the Town of Northeast be submitted to Ag and Markets for review.
- A letter from Commissioner Ball received August 3rd, 2017 cited Resolution No 2017-136 to accept the inclusion of viable agricultural lands in to Agricultural Districts No. 20, No 21, No 22 and No. 23.

NYS Ag and Markets Land "Access Outreach Activities" Grant program-

- Mr. Collings reported on the new program designed by NYS Ag and Markets to provide funding for land trusts working to increase Landowner/Farm matches. A motion was made by Mrs. Fimbel to write a letter of endorsement for the applications of both Dutchess and Columbia Counties Land Conservancies by the March 5th, 2018 deadline. Mr. Coon seconded. Mr. Collings abstained from voting on this matter. Motion Approved

Preemptive Purchase Rights to keep land sales at agricultural value: Discussion

- A discussion was had by members of the Board to consider the option of Preemptive Purchase Rights (PPR's) being available to interested landowners entering the easement process with the goal of keeping land sales at affordable agricultural values for young farmers.

Other

- Members of the Board reviewed process for accepting applications for Ag District Inclusions. Landowners will be notified of application period prior to the April 15th acceptance date. Applications are due by May 14th. Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District will receive applications. The Board set a June 2018 meeting date for discussion and endorsement of applications. The Legislature will notify the public of public hearing held in July, and applicants will be notified in writing of their application results.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, June 5th, 2018- 7:00pm at the Farm and Home Center, 2715 Rte 44, Millbrook NY 12545.

Adjournment

Mrs. Fimbel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. Mr. Hackett seconded.

Meeting Adjourned