

Dutchess County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

Meeting Conducted Via Zoom Conference

Present: Chair, Gregg Pulver; Vice Chair, Art Collings; Eric Axelson; Peter Coon; Eoin Wrafter; Brian Scoralick; Ed Hackett; Jennifer Fimbel; Ed Hauser, Ken Migliorelli
Others Present: Amy Cross, Secretary; Shelby Frangke; Cathy Weisse
Public Present: None

The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Pulver at 7:05 pm

Public Comment-

Mr Pulver solicited for public comment. No comments were brought forth.

Reorganization for the year 2021:

A motion was made by Jennifer Fimbel to nominate Gregg Pulver as Chair of the board. Ed Hackett seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Gregg Pulver to nominate Art Collings as Vice-Chair of the board. Jennifer Fimbel seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried

A motion was made by Jennifer Fimbel to nominate Amy Cross as Secretary of the board. Brian Scoralick seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Communication-

- None

Minutes-

A motion was made by Eoin Wrafter to accept the minutes of June 11, 2020. Jennifer Fimbel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- Mr. Pulver brought up the two endorsement requests brought forth by Dutchess Land Conservancy for Meadowland Farm and Hitsman Farms for the Farms in Transition programs. The votes were cast by email in October. Art Collings recused himself from the vote. The Board voted to endorse both parcels for the program.

New Business:

- Art Collings gave the Board an update on the working status of Dutchess Land Conservancy. Many employees are working from home and he is doing socially distant site visits.

- Eric Axelson updated the Board that after 11 years in his position at Real Property, he is retiring. He introduced Cathy Weisse who will be filling his seat on the AFPB Board representing Real Property.
- Brian Scoralick updated the Board that several Partner agencies will be hosting agricultural landowner virtual education events early next year.
- Eoin Wrafter gave an update about the Ag advisory board. As mentioned above, several areas will be explored for further educational opportunities. These will be for the general public, landowners, operators, lease agreements, etc.
- Gregg Pulver opened the floor for discussion about the responsibilities of the AFPB in the County. Currently the Board reviews the purchase of development rights, annual Ag District inclusion and 8 year review processes. He asked the Board members to consider how the Board can do more.

Next Meeting: To Be Determined

A motion was made by Eric Axelson and seconded by Jen Fimbel and carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:35pm.