

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 721 Foster Street Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 8 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: September 15, 2016

Advisory Board Present:

Neil Frank- Chairman
David Heeks- At Large
Neal Curran- Business Representative
John Monroe- At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jane Korest-Open Space
Elizabeth Zander- Piedmont Community Cons.
Emily Holleran- DFFN
Nicole Connelley- DFFN
Annette Hiatt- Land Loss Prevention Program

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, September 15, 2016 and called to order at 8:00am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St., Durham, NC 27701, in the 2nd floor conference room.

1. **Minutes** – Tabled until next meeting (didn't have a quorum).
2. **Membership-**
 - Vacant positions- Lisa Marochak reported that the BOCC voted on Monday, August 19th to appoint Neal Curran to the vacant Business Representative position. The Fall's VAD position is currently being advertised.
3. **Budget-** Lisa Marochak reported that there has been no change to the Farmland Board budget since the last meeting.
4. **Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - a. **Breakfast Topics for the National Association of Conservation Districts Urban Agriculture Initiative** - The Farmland Board finalized the breakfast topics and dates. Elizabeth Zander will create a flyer for the upcoming breakfast series.
 - b. **Farmland Board subcommittee for the draft DCo Ag Economic Policy-** Neal Curran and Mike Dupree reported that the subcommittee met and they came up with some proposed changes to the policy. Dupree passed out a copy of the proposed changes from the Farmland Board subcommittee. The subcommittee consisting of Mike Dupree, Neal Curran and Annette Hiatt are going to continue working on this project. There are some UNC and Duke NBA students that are interested in helping with the research. Several Duke Students will be attending the GAP training on September 22.
5. **Easement update-** Jane Korest reported on the following:
 - Still waiting to receive cooperative agreement back on the 4 Federal applications that were submitted this year. The Federal FY end is September 30th.

7. Farmers Market update-

Will Wilson gave an update on the Durham Roots Farmer's Market.

- The market will close on November 12th
- **Fall Kick-off** – Over 200 people attended the Fall kick-off on September 10th. Deborah McGiffin with Durham County Cooperative Extension did a food demonstration at the kick-off and Reality Ministry provided music.
- **Durham County TV show**- Lisa Marochak reached out to Deborah Craig-Ray with the Durham County Public Information Office to see if the Durham Roots Farmers Market could speak on the show, but there was no availability.
- **Market Brochure**- Lisa Marochak volunteered to help design a brochure for the Durham Roots Market.

New Business:

1. Incubator Farm Subcommittee- John Monroe reported on the following:

- Since the last Farmland Board meeting Jane Korest has met/talked with several people to get ideas.
- This is a big project so it's going to take some time to plan out.
- There are other Community Groups that are interested in an Incubator Farm, so the subcommittee will setup a time to meet with them.

2. Public Candidates Forum- Emily and Nicole with DFFN reported that there will be a Public Candidates Forum on October 26th at the Heritage Center. There will be a panel consisting of City Council, DPS School Board, Durham County BOCC, & Soil and Water, Farm Bureau, etc. from 6pm-7pm. A candidates forum for officials being elected will be held from 7pm-8pm. (19 officials are going to be invited)

Next Meeting– October 20, 2016 at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701 (second floor conference room)

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Neil Frank adjourned the meeting at 9:05 am.

Neil Frank
Chair

December 15, 2016
Date approved