

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 10 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: December 15, 2016

Advisory Board Present:

Neil Frank- Chairman
Will Wilson- Vice Chair
Kathryn Spann- 2nd Vice Chair/Durham SWCD Rep.
Wendy Jacobs- BOCC Representative
Neal Curran- Business Representative
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Perry Whitted- At Large
Nicole Connelly- At Large
David Heeks- At Large
Mark Waller- Farm Bureau Representative

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jane Korest-Open Space
Deborah McGiffin- Cooperative Extension

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, December 15, 2016 and called to order at 8:06am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St., Durham, NC 27701.

1. **August, September & November Minutes** – A motion was made by Will Wilson to approve the minutes for August, September and November except to add Wilson Wilson to the Board members present in September. Perry Whitted seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Membership-**
 - Lisa Marochak reported that the BOCC voted on Monday, December 5th to appoint Talmage Layton to the vacant Falls Lake VAD position.
 - Nicole Connelly is interested in joining the Farmland Board and has submitted an application. A motion was made by Mark Waller to make Nicole Connelly an At Large member of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board. John Monroe seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Wendy Jacobs reported that she will not be able to continue serving as the BOCC Rep on the FPAB. She will send a replacement.
3. **Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
Breakfast series
 - Northern High School is having testing on January 19th so we will not be able to have the breakfast at Northern as planned unless we change the date. The FPAB decided to move the January breakfast to January 26th and to have it at Northern High School. The Culinary Arts Program will be catering the breakfast.
 - The board discussed possible topics for the February/March breakfast.
 - Detention Facility- a copy of the current price sheet from the detention facility showing how much they currently pay for food was shared with the FPAB. Mike Dupree plans to share the form with farmers at the January breakfast. Wendy Jacobs suggested that they pick 1 or 2 products to focus on selling to the Detention Facility as a pilot.

- 4. Easement update-** Jane Korest reported on the following:
- Federal applications deadline is January 31, 2017.
 - Still working on Daye Farm.
 - Should have new Open Space & Real Estate Coordinator by mid-January.
 - Hasn't started working on the 4 applications that were just approved by the Feds.

5. Farmers Market update-

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

- Still working on 2017 market dates
- **Vendors**– The Durham Roots Market Board met this month and made some changes. The biggest change was to allow vendors that are members to sell at the market and they would have voting rights. Also, to allow non-member vendors to sell at the market but they wouldn't have voting rights. The non-members would have to live in the watershed and pay the same fee that the members pay.

6. Incubator Farm Subcommittee- Jane Korest reported on the following:

- Incubator subcommittee has been meeting but they are still at the forming stage. They are working on what the focus/mission should be.
- John Monroe reported that the subcommittee has been meeting with other groups. They meet with the Manager of the downtown Farmers Market. The new President of the market is interested in having more Durham vendors at the downtown market.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Legislative Items-** Eddie Culberson reported that the County is asking for any legislative items this board might have to be submitted to them by Monday December 19. Please send any items you may have by Monday.
- 2. DFFN-** Nicole Connelly reported that DFFN is looking at putting out a survey to farmers to find out what their needs are. A draft copy was passed out to the FPAB members.
- 3. Interfaith Food Shuttle-** Is having a program called 'Grow the Row' for any farmer that is interested. Farmers can grow extra rows to give to the Interfaith Food Shuttle.
- 4. Farmland Tour-** The FPAB discussed having a tour in the spring for the County Manager and BOCC.

Next Meeting– January 19, 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 9:47 am.

Neil Frank
Chair

Will Wilson
Vice Chair

Date approved