

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 1 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: January 19, 2017

Advisory Board Present:

Neil Frank- Chairman
Will Wilson- Vice Chair
Kathryn Spann- 2nd Vice Chair/Durham SWCD Rep.
Neal Curran- Business Representative
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Perry Whitted- Open Space Representative
Nicole Connelly- At Large
Talmage Layton- Falls/Lick Creek VAD
John Monroe- At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jane Korest-Open Space
Celeste Burns- Real Estate Coordinator
Deborah McGiffin- Cooperative Extension
Elizabeth Zander- Piedmont Conservation Council
Annette Hiatt- citizen

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, January 19, 2017 and called to order at 8:06am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St., Durham, NC 27701.

1. **December Minutes** – A motion was made by John Monroe to approve the minutes for December 2016. Perry Whitted seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Membership-**
 - Lisa Marochak reported that Heidi Carter is the new BOCC Representative on the Farmland Board.
3. **Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - ❖ **Breakfast series**
 - The next breakfast will be held next Thursday, January 26th. The meeting will take place at Northern High School 8am to 10am. The Culinary Arts Program will be catering the breakfast. Lisa Marochak will resend the flyer with a parking map.
 - The February 9th breakfast will be held at Bull City Cool. The topic of the breakfast will be Local Buyer Discussion Panel & Mixer.
 - ❖ **Pesticide Applicators-** have new EPA rules for worker protection
 - ❖ There are changes to the Sales and Use Tax for 2017 that may have impact on new farmers.
4. **2017 ALE Grant program-** Jane Korest reported on the following:
 - John Monroe recused himself from the meeting at 8:38am. The ALE Grant program is formally the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program. The ALE program will pay 50% if awarded. Jane Korest presented the Amed Tilley Farm to the Farmland Board (owner John Monroe.) A recommendation was made by Kathryn Spann for the Durham County BOCC to move forward with the 33 acre Amed Tilley Farm. Talmage Layton seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

5. Farmers Market update-

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

- **Market rules & application**– Planning to send out a copy of the new market rules and 2017 application.
 - In the mist of application season for 2017
- Farmer Promotion Grant – planning to apply before the deadline in March

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

- They are working on putting together the gap of what is out there.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Real Estate Coordinator-** Jane Korest introduced Celeste Burns the new Real Estate Coordinator to the Farmland Board and staff.
2. **2017 Officers** There being no further nominations Talmage Layton made a motion by acclamation to keep the officers the same as last year. Perry Whitted seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
3. **DFFN-** Nicole Connelly reported that the DFFN survey for farmers will go live a next week’s breakfast.
4. **Farmland Tour-** The FPAB discussed having a tour in the spring for the County Manager and BOCC. Kathryn Spann, Jane Korest, Will Wilson, Neil Frank, Deborah McGiffin and Nicole Connelly volunteered to for a subcommittee to begin planning the tour. Lisa Marochak will send out a Doodle Pole to the subcommittee. A motion was made by Perry Whitted to allocate \$1700 toward the cost of the Farm Tour. Kathryn Spann seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Next Meeting– February 16, 2017 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 9:33 am.

Neil Frank
Chair

Will Wilson
Vice Chair

Date approved