

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Building
1721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 5 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: August 17, 2017

Advisory Board Present:

Will Wilson- Vice Chair
David Heeks- At Large
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Heidi Carter- BOCC Representative
Mark Waller- Farm Bureau Representative
Talmage Layton- Fall/Lick Creek VAD

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water
Jane Korest-Open Space
Darnell Parker- Cooperative Extension
Cheralyn Schmidt- Cooperative Extension
Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board
Elizabeth Zander- Piedmont Conservation Council
Annette Hiatt- Land Loss Prevention Proj.

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, August 17, 2017 and called to order at 8:07am by the Vice Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

- 1. Minutes** – A motion was made by Mark Waller to approve the minutes for June 2017. David Heeks seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Board Attendance**
 - Michelle Parker-Evans reported that a resignation request letter was mailed to Gus Gray and Demetrius Thompson for lack of attendance. Further discussion about attendance was tabled until the next meeting.
- 3. Budget-** Lisa Marochak reported that the Farmland Board has a balance of \$3,870 for FY18.
- 4. VAD Renewal**
 - A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve the VAD application (renewal) for Mark Waller. The application is for 38.367 acres on Kerley Rd and 3.979 acres on Mt Sinai Rd. David Heeks seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve the VAD application (new) for Kenyon Browning and Susan Browning. The application is for 32.065 acres on Infinity Rd. Douglas Daye seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 5. Easements- Jane Korest reported on the following:**
 - Closing on Mr. Daye's Farm is scheduled for next Friday at 3:30pm.
 - Monroe Farm (Amhed Tilley Farm)- waiting on 2017 approval from Feds.
- 6. Ag Economic Development Coordinator update-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - a. Detention Facility**
 - The BOCC approved a \$20,000 grant to Farmer Food Share for the supplemental purchasing of food for the detention facility. The funds are available for purchasing of locally grown produce.

- An Informational session on FMSA and GAP certification is being offered Wednesday September 6, 2017 from 8am to 10am. This meeting will be held at Bull City Cool. We are hoping to have 10 to 12 produce growers from the county. A motion was made by David Heeks to approve \$100 for biscuits and coffee for the informational session. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

b. Small Grant Program

The BOCC approved \$25,000 for the small grant program for farmers. The committee will meet on August 29th from 1 to 3pm to work on the draft application, process, ranking and evaluation criteria forms.

7. DFFN update- Tabled until the next meeting

8. Farm Campus committee update: Jane Korest reported on the following:

- Gave an update on what the subcommittee has been doing.
- Next meeting is scheduled for September 11.

9. Farmland Board Retreat- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

Will be held on November 14th noon-4pm at Kings Daughter's Inn.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Expanding Opportunities for Minorities in the Local Food System- Raymond Eurquhart reported that workshop for minority owned restaurants, minority farmers and minority students will be held on Monday, September 25th 8:30am to 11am at The Pavilion (501 Foster St). A motion was made by David Heeks to approve up to \$600 for expenses to put on the workshop. Heidi Carter seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Next Meeting– September 21, 2017 at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701 (second floor conference room)

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Vice Chairman, Will Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:32a.m.

Will Wilson
Vice Chair

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

Date approved