

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Building
721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 2 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: March 21, 2019

Advisory Board Present:

Will Wilson- Chairman
Neil Frank- Vice Chair
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Heidi Carter- BOCC Representative
Talmage Layton- At Large
Samantha Gasson- At Large
David Heeks- At Large
Nicole Connelly- Little River VAD
Mark Waller- Farm Bureau Representative
John Monroe- At Large

Others Present:

Kyle Gentry- Soil & Water
Jane Korest- Open Space
Celeste Burns- Open Space
Darnell Parker- Cooperative Ext
Donna Rewalt- Cooperative Ext

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, March 21, 2019 and called to order at 8:11 am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

1. Easements- Celeste Burns reported on the following:

- Working on 5 farms funded.
 - Len Needham application is moving forward

2. VAD update- Kyle Gentry reported that he has six renewal VAD applications for consideration:

- A motion was made by Talmage Layton to approve the renewal VAD applications as follows. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Kathleen Alexander and Robert Ross- The application is for 88.563 acres on Leesville Rd.
 - Paul Adcock- The application is for 38.816 acres on Adcock Rd.
 - Henry and Gwendolyn Thacker- The application is for 336.543 on Hampton Rd, Dunwoody Rd, Bahama Rd.
 - Claire Poyet and Peter Bronec- The application is for 263.63 acres on Range Rd.
 - Roy Berry- The application is for 18.465 acres on Chambers Rd.
 - June Foushee- The application is for 77.723 acres on Farrington Rd.

3. Farmers Market update- Will Wilson gave an update on the Roots Farmers Market

- First day is April 6th, 9am-12pm at Brightleaf square

4. Ag Economic Development update- Kyle Gentry gave a report which is attached. Items on report were discussed.

- A motion was made by Neil Frank to approve the funding request in the amount of \$1,500 to purchase t-shirts, snacks, water, ice, and award ceremony supplies for the 2019 BETC Summer Program. John Monroe seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **Annual Report-** Celeste Burns and Will Wilson shared the PowerPoint to be shared with the BOCC. As a group, several changes were made and discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Cooperative Extension-** Donna Rewalt introduced herself as the new Durham Cooperative Extension director and discussed ways she can help the board.
- 2) **Legislative Ag Day-** Will Wilson brought up the ideas discussed with the state legislators and ways to incorporate guest speakers at future meetings to help educate members of the board on urban development pressure. After some discussion a committee consisting of David Heeks, Nicole Connelly, and Will Wilson were tasked with drafting a letter to express the boards stance toward development to be share with planning departments and the BOCC.

Next Meeting–April 18, at 8am. The meeting will be held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Will Wilson adjourned the meeting at 10:13 am.

Will Wilson
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

4-18-19
Date approved