

**PASSAIC COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(CADB) MEETING**

June 4, 2019

930 Riverview Drive, Totowa, NJ 07512

6:30 PM

AGENDA

- **ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**
- **ROLL CALL**
- **MINUTES:** April 2, 2019
- **NEW BUSINESS:** 38 Castle Rock Road, Hewitt – possible SSAMP (KC)
- **OLD BUSINESS:** none
- **CORRESPONDENCE:** May 3, 2019 letter from NJ Farm Bureau, Peter J. Furey, Executive Director, Re: Passaic County Open Space Funds
- **ADJOURNMENT**

cc: Anthony DeNova, County Administrator
John Pogorelec, Assistant County Counsel

PASSAIC COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (CADB)

Minutes of April 2, 2019

Commissioners Present

Harry "Skip" Bartlett	Farmer Member - Chairman
Dr. Timothy Feeney	Citizen Member – Vice Chair
Megan Myers	Citizen Member -
Dave Longo	Farmer Member

Jennifer Papa	Citizen Member
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Also Present

Kathleen M. Caren	Planning Department
Glen Van Olden	Soil Conservation District of Hudson-Essex & Passaic

Commissioners Absent

Rudy Ploch, Jr.	Farmer
Rocky Hazelman	Members
John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.	Assistant County Counsel

Absent

Cecilia Diaz	Rutgers Cooperative Extension
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Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. Skip read the Sunshine Notice and Kathleen noted a visual roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none – no members of the public were present.

SWEARING IN OF REAPPOINTED AND NEW MEMBERS: John D. Pogorelec, Jr. officiated the swearing-in of Skip, Rudy, Rocky, Jennifer, and Tim.

REORGANIZATION: Rocky motioned that Skip remain as chair, Dave seconded and as there were no other nominees, Skip was unanimously approved. Next, Tim was nominated to remain as Vice-Chair by Rocky, seconded by Dave, and with no other nominees, was unanimously approved.

MINUTES: Dave made a motion to approve the June 20, 2018 minutes, Rudy seconded and all but Jennifer (who was not a member at that time) voted to approve.

2019 PROPOSED MEETING DATE: June 4 (Megan and Glen are unavailable); September 3; November 12; January 7, 2020. Dave made a motion to approve, Rudy seconded and the dates were approved by all.

• DISCUSSION

Meeting with SADC (State Agriculture Development Committee) staff: Kathleen explained that she'd attended a Municipal PIG grant workshop and was approached afterward by Amy Mandelbaum, the new Northern NJ Regional Coordinator. Amy stated staff would like to meet with Passaic County and Bergen County CADB Administrators to discuss the potential for a new Urban Agriculture program. Kathleen thanked Jennifer for her work on behalf of City Green's contribution to this initiative by sharing their database of community gardens/farms, and promised to keep the Board apprised of any new developments/proposals by the state.

101 Oldham Road, Wayne – Board members were disappointed by the correspondence sent to Ms. Klaasen re: the rejection of their proposal to purchase the development rights through Farmland Preservation.

38 Castle Rock Road in West Milford – Kathleen had shared an email with members of the Board earlier, re: a stop-work order (fill materials for the creation of future haul roads, staging areas, facilities, sales, parking, etc.) by the West Milford Zoning Officer. Upon consultation with both Glen and John, she shared with the property owners the forms necessary for a Site-Specific Agriculture Management

Practice (SSAMP). Glen also noted that the property owners are working with an engineer for the SCD re: the erosion control certification.

Eden Farm I, West Milford – There was discussion of this first-ever preserved farm (greenhouse operation) due to issues with the previous owners. The garden center store had been closed but has reopened; Kathleen promised to check with the local tax office that at least 50% of their greenhouse stock is being grown on-site (a condition of their farmland assessment).

Other discussion: Dave brought up Spring Brook Acres (Bloomingdale) as a potential farmland preservation project; said he'd spoken to Mrs. Moscato about it, and will provide more details as they emerge. Next, Rocky brought up Echo Lake Stables. Dave stated that he'd spoken to property owner and that "someone scared her" off from the idea of farmland preservation. Kathleen explained that some years ago, while Jennifer Gonzales was CADB Administrator, there had been a meeting with property owner, Jennifer, Kathleen and Stefanie Miller (SADC staff), and when she heard about the state monitoring and the restrictions under that guise, that they decided against pursuing preservation. Prior to the adjournment of the meeting, discussion of 101 Oldham Road continued, with Skip and other members stating they planned to attend the next Freeholder meeting to express their disappointment before taking additional action. Rocky asked if a special meeting was necessary to discuss but the Board seemed to discount this, as they'd like to try and resolve whatever issues there may be first.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m., motion by Rudy, seconded by Rocky. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Caren, CADB Administrator



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May 3, 2019

To: Michael Glovin, Esq.
Passaic County Counsel

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Furey', is written over the 'From:' field.

From: Peter J. Furey, executive director

Re: Passaic County open space funds

We have been contacted by our leadership in Passaic County about their disappointment in a matter as noted above. Apparently, they feel they have been rebuffed by the freeholders about a potential open space acquisition of a farm site in the county.

We are the Trenton-based farmer's advocacy association in New Jersey, and were pleased to have celebrated our 100th anniversary just last year. You can look us up at our website - www.njfb.org if interested.

We take an interest in governmental matters like these, especially when the expectations of our member farmers are not readily resolved. We have worked closely with the state and farmland preservation programs since their start in the early 1980's.

I would like to know what you recommend on how we might proceed to petition the freeholders for a reconsideration of this project. Can this be done in letter form? personal appearance? group meeting?

Your suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

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cc: Rocky Hazelman, Passaic County Board of Ag president
Skip Bartlett, Passaic CADB chairman

