

## MINUTES

### **Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 721 Foster Street Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 10 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: December 18, 2014

#### **Advisory Board Present:**

Will Wilson- Vice Chairman- Eno VAD  
Wendy Jacobs- BOCC Representative  
John Monroe- At Large  
Perry Whitted- Open Space and Trails  
Anthony Lopez- Falls VAD  
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD  
Demetrius Thompson- At Large

#### **Others Present:**

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water, Director  
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water  
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water  
Jane Korest- Open Space, Manager  
Wendy Seddon- Open Space  
Annette Hiatt- citizen  
Linn Lopez- citizen  
Deborah McGiffin- Cooperative Extension- Local  
Foods Program

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, December 18, 2014 and called to order at 8:15 am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street in the second floor conference room.*

1. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Wendy Jacobs to approve the minutes from the last meeting. John Monroe second the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Membership** – The Board still has not received a resignation letter from Alicia Butler.
3. **Budget update-** Eddie Culberson gave an update on the budget. The only money spent since the last meeting was \$182.13 for the January 15<sup>th</sup> Farmer Appreciation Breakfast and coffee supplies.
  - **Possible ideas:**
    - **Retreat-** John Monroe proposed the idea of possibly having a board retreat to set new priorities for 2015 and hire a professional consultant to lead the retreat. Tabled until next meeting
4. **Easement Updates-** Jane Korest reported on the following:
  - March 26 closing on 64 acres for Barry Blalock's Farm.
  - Will resubmit applications in the Spring for Adcock and McFarland Farm.
  - Working with other interested landowners
5. **VAD update-** Eddie Culberson reported on the following:
  - No new applications
  - Renewal for all members is in process- applications need to be notarized.

- 6. Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
- **Breakfast Series-** Two of the breakfast took place during the GAP training on November 19<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> breakfast will be held on January 15<sup>th</sup> at Neil Frank's Farm and the topic will be on bees. The 4<sup>th</sup> breakfast is planned for February 19<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be live stock.
    - **Outreach Event-** Possible restaurant mixer with Peter Skillern May 2015
  - **Food & Farm Network-** Mike Dupree and Jane Korest attended the meeting
    - Moving Durham to buying more local food
    - Open Agricultural Building parking lot for Durham only farmers
      - A subcommittee consisting of Mike Dupree, Neil Frank, John Monroe, Kathryn Spann and Samantha Gasson will explore this idea.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Food Pantry and Clothing Closet:** Manger, Elizabeth Newman reported that the food pantry is constantly in need of food. They are especially in need of fresh produce. Everything donated is tax deductible.
  - a. Send out survey
2. **Bull City Food Hub:** Peter Skillern spoke to the Board about Bull City Hub. Peter gave ideas for the survey. The Board decided to form a subcommittee to look at the local market for supply. The Subcommittee: Peter Skillern, Ben Filippo (CFSA), David Heeks, Kathryn Spann, Mary Lyons and Mike Brinkley.

**Next Meeting Date – January 23, 2015** at 8:00am- Agricultural Building 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 9:37 am.

Will Wilson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair