

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 8 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: October 22, 2015

Advisory Board Present:

Neil Frank- Chairman- At Large
Will Wilson-Vice Chair
Kathryn Spann- Soil & Water Representative
Wendy Jacobs- County Commissioner
Samantha Gasson- At Large
John Monroe- At Large
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Demetrius Thompson- At large
Talmage Layton- At Large
Tony Lopez- Falls/Lick Creek VAD
Perry Whitted- Open Space & Trails Representative

Others Present:

Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water
Wendy Seddon- Open Space
Jane Korest-Open Space
Eliza Bordley- Citizen
Annette Hiatt- Citizen
Linn Lopez- Citizen

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, October 22, 2015 and called to order at 8:00 am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street in the first floor classroom.

1. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Will Wilson to approve the minutes from the last meeting as presented. Samantha Gasson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Membership**- Lisa Marochak reported that the Business seat is still vacant. If you know of anyone that is interested in filling this seat please have them call our office.
3. **Easement Updates**- Jane Korest reported on the following:
 - Currently working on funded easements for Douglas Daye and George Tilley.
 - The County didn't receive funding from the ACEP/ALE program on Adcock and S. McFarland grant requests that were submitted this spring.
 - Jane Korest reported that they are working on a couple of potential farms for the future.
4. **Ag Development Coordinator**- Mike Dupree reported on the following:
 - **Annual Report**- Dupree will have a draft at the November 12th breakfast.
 - **Goal: Establish a Local Food Policy Council**
The Durham Farm Food Network has been meeting monthly. There is going to be a community wide meeting in January to select members to serve. Action items will include: Share information Education; Form a joint messaging campaign; Move a policy agenda forward
 - Four areas of focus will be Food Justice and Hunger, Farming & Natural Resources, Health & Economy
 - **Goal: Expand Ag Education in DPS**
Lowe's Grove Middle School has a new curricular focus and is developing an Agribusiness focus.
 - Fidelity Financial is financing the greenhouse retrofit and the volunteer day is Saturday October 24th.

- **Farmer Appreciation Breakfast Series**
 - November breakfast will be held at Caywood Farm (home of Neil and Catherine Frank). The speaker will be Johnny Rogers and he will talk about 'Beef Cattle Production'. Invitations will be mailed out next week.
 - December Breakfast December 10, 2015 we need a location and topic. Annette Hiatt is willing to lead a discussion regarding the services they offer. Possible location: Fullsteam Brewery and possible topic: hops
 - January Breakfast- Will be held at Bull City Cool. This will be a panel discussion for farmers on GAP certification. The panel will consist of farmers that have gone through GAP certification.
 - February Breakfast- The UDI Aquaculture/Aquaponics building in Durham has not been constructed so another site and topic need to be picked. Possible site location John Hoffman's. Samantha Gasson will check with John Hoffman.
- **Annual Report to the BOCC**
Have started the draft report and PPT and should have it ready for the Board to review at the November breakfast so it's ready to present at the December 7 Board of County Commissioner work session.

5. Farmers Market Subcommittee report-

- A. John Monroe gave an update on the Northgate location for the market.
 - Name needed for market at Northgate: John Monroe moved that the market at Northgate be called 'Durham Roots'. Samantha Gasson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Mike Dupree reported that Eddie Culberson spoke with County Finance Director, George Quick about the use of the Farmland Advisory Board funds for starting a new market. Finance said that the Farmland Advisory Board could go to the Board of County Commissioners and ask for a budget amendment. Legal is also looking into this matter. John Monroe is going to contact the School of Government in Chapel Hill.
 - A motion was made by John Monroe to recommend authorization of the following itemized funds \$500 for market liability insurance, \$275 for the market, \$51 for permit and \$200 for stipend to pay a high school student for being the Assistant Market Manager pending clarity from the UNC School of Government or approval from the BOCC. Demetrius Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - Stickers for tents- for farmers market 'Durham' vendors. Lisa Marochak will work a design for the 24 x 6 sticker and bring to the December meeting.
 - Farm Inspections- Initially the market committee was going to have Soil and Water staff to inspect vendor farms but now the market isn't going to require this. John Monroe and Demetrius Thompson are to inspect the farms now. The market is still willing to handout the VNRP (Voluntary Nutrient Reduction Program) brochure to farms they inspect.
 - **Durham Farmers Market/JCCP-** Wendy Jacobs reported on the following:
 - Drew Cummings has been working with the Durham Farmers Market and is still trying to get information from them.
 - Jacobs will share a list of current vendors at the Durham Farmers Market with the Farmland Advisory Board.

Next Meeting/breakfast Date – November 12, 2015 at 8:00am
Caywood Farms home of Neil and Cathy Frank (2306 Moores Mill Rd Rougemont, NC 27572)

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Neil Frank adjourned the meeting at 9:40 am.

Neil Frank
Chair

Will Wilson
Vice Chair

Date approved