

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 3 (Farmland Advisory Board)      Date: March 30, 2016

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

Neil Frank- Chairman  
Will Wilson-Vice Chair  
John Monroe- At Large  
Mark Waller- Farm Bureau Representative  
Talmage Layton- At Large  
Perry Whitted (Phone) - Open Space Representative  
Tony Lopez- Falls VAD  
David Heeks- At Large

#### **Others Present:**

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water  
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water  
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water  
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water  
Jane Korest-Open Space  
Wendy Seddon- Open Space  
Cheralyn Schmidt- Horticulture Agent/Coop. Ext.  
Deborah McGiffin- Cooperative Extension  
Annette Hiatt- citizen  
Elizabeth Zander- Soil & Water Contractor/PCC  
Lin Lopez- citizen

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2016 and called to order at 8:15am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St., Durham, NC 27701, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room.*

1. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Will Wilson to approve the minutes from the February meeting as presented. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Membership-**
  - Business Representative- Lisa Marochak reported that the vacant position is being advertised now and will be appointed at the April 25<sup>th</sup> BOCC Meeting.
  - At Large Position- Neil Frank reported that David Heeks is interested in joining the board as an At Large member. A motion was made by Mark Waller to appoint David Heeks as an At Large member. Talmage Layton seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
3. **Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
  - **Annual Report-** Was presented at the BOCC work session on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Funds for DPS Schools to start greenhouses-** \$200 in pots and plants were purchased for Lowes Grove Middle and \$170 in soil was purchased for Southern High. Jordan High never followed up on a list of what they need. Two emails have been sent to the teacher. The teachers at Northern High would like to attend the next Farmland Board Meeting to let the board know what their needs are.
  - **Post Harvest Workshop-** April 6<sup>th</sup> 9am-3:30pm
  - Durham Farm Network & Food Policy Council has been created. There are over 300 members with 19 members serving on the Coordinating Committee. There are four areas of focus: Food Justice, Farming & Natural Resources, and Health & Economy. The Farming & Natural Resources action circle will meet the second Monday of the month at the Bull City Cool Hub on Geer St. The meeting will be from 6pm-7:30pm. There are 91 action items that the action circle will be narrowing down to the top priorities. There are about 40 members in the action circle.

4. **Easement update-** Jane Korest reported on the following:
- Closed on the easement for George Tilley, yesterday.
  - Still working with Douglas Daye on his easement
  - Received notification on 4 Federal applications that were submitted this year that they met the 1<sup>st</sup> criteria.
  - Working on a couple of potential farms for the future.

4. **Farmers Market update-**

Will Wilson gave an update on the Durham Roots Farmer's Market.

- **Opening day-** Saturday in April 16.
- **Board members** are: Will Wilson, John Monroe and Annette Hiatt
- **Market vendors-** There are 5 vendors plus the Northern High School Culinary Arts students.
  - **DPS funding support-** Durham Farm Bureau is offering to help support Durham Public Schools.
- **Funding-** John Monroe thanked the board for the funding to start up Durham Roots Farmer's Market.
- **Flyer-** Will Wilson passed out a copy of the Durham Roots Farmer's Market opening day flyer.

**New Business:**

**Pond Clinic Saturday, May 7** – This year Durham Soil and Water Conservation District is partnering with Orange Soil and Water Conservation District to help put on the event and it's going to be bigger and better than ever! We are planning to kick off the day with a catch and release fishing tournament. We will be offering several trainings and we are bringing back the popular shock boat. Last but not least, we will be having a fish fry for lunch and all of this is being provided **FREE** thanks to our many sponsors. Please call 919-560-0558 to sign-up for this event by April 29th.

**Next Meeting**– April 21, 2016 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 9:21 am.

Neil Frank  
Chair

Will Wilson  
Vice-Chair

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Date approved