

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 5 (Farmland Advisory Board)      Date: May 19, 2016

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

Neil Frank- Chairman  
Will Wilson-Vice Chair  
Kathryn Spann- Soil and Water Representative  
John Monroe- At Large  
Wendy Jacobs- BOCC Representative  
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD  
Perry Whitted - Open Space Representative  
David Heeks- At Large  
Demetrius Thompson - 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  
Deborah McGiffin- Cooperative Extension  
Annette Hiatt- citizen  
Neil Curran- Bull City Cool Food Hub Coordinator

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 and called to order at 8:03am 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 Kathryn Spann to approve the minutes from the April meeting as presented. Perry Whitted seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Membership-**
  - Vacant positions- Lisa Marochak reported that the vacant Business Representative position and Fall VAD position are currently being advertised.
3. **Farmland Board Budget-**
  - Lisa Marochak reported that the board has \$490.30 remaining in their budget. Lisa is planning to get several copies of the GAP Manual and Farmland Annual Plan with the remaining money.
  - Eddie Culberson reported that he has not heard officially on the 2017-2018 budget.
4. **Ag Development Coordinator-** Mike Dupree reported on the following:
  - **Local Food Purchasing Agreement-** with the Durham County Detention center will be held Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm at Bull City Cool. The goal is to introduce products into the detention facility.

#### **BETC**

- **Lowe's Grove Middle School-** The \$300 of tools and products were delivered to the courtyard garden project. LGMS won a STEMY Award for their Courtyard project and Stream project.
- **Southern High-** the check was sent to purchase the two greenhouses that will be constructed by the Infrastructure technology class.
- **UL Award-** the District should be receiving feedback on the UL award, the interview is next week for finalists. Durham was selected as one of 12 from over 100 applications. If selected the funds would be used to support and expand the BETC Program.

- **Smith Reynolds Foundation Grant-** application was submitted for \$50,000 to support the BETC program, we should know if it will be funded this month.

### **Durham Food Policy Council**

- The Durham Farm & Food Network has been created. Over 300 members with 19 members serving on the Coordinating Committee. There are four areas of focus: Food Justice, Farming & Natural Resources, and Economy.
    - The Farming & Natural Resources committee will meet on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Mike Dupree will email the notes from the last meeting to the Farmland Board.
4. **Easement update-** Jane Korest reported on the following:
- Still waiting to hear back on the 4 Federal applications that were submitted this year. Received notice last week that the 4 applications were sent to Washington.
5. **Farmers Market update-**  
Will Wilson gave an update on the Durham Roots Farmer's Market.
- **Grant-** was submitted under Piedmont Conservation Council for \$80,000. The grant funds will be used to support the market.
  - **Vendor-** John Monroe reported that there was a new vendor at the market last week selling rabbit meat.

### **New Business:**

1. **Mixer Concept-** tabled until June's meeting
2. **Incubator Farm** – Mike Dupree, Jane Korest, John Monroe, Annette Hiatt and David Heeks will form a subcommittee to discuss the idea.

**Next Meeting**– June 23, 2016 at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701 (second floor conference room)

**Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Neil Frank adjourned the meeting at 9:03 am.

Neil Frank  
Chair

Will Wilson  
Vice-Chair

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Date approved