

MINUTES

Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Building
721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 10 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: October 17, 2019

Advisory Board Present:

Will Wilson- Chairman
Neil Frank- Vice Chair
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Heidi Carter- BOCC Representative
Nicole Connelly- Little River VAD
David Heeks-At Large
Tersha Wymore-DOST
John Monroe-At Large

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jane Korest- Open Space
Celeste Burns- Open Space
Ashley Troth- Cooperative Ext
Darnell Parker-Cooperative Ext

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, October 17, 2019 and called to order at 8:00 am by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

1. **Approval of Board minutes from August-** Motion made by Neil Frank to approve minutes as presented, seconded by Nicole Connelly. Motion passed
2. **Budget Update-** *Presented by Eddie Culberson*
FY19-20 Farmland budget \$3,375 (\$1,500 committed to VAD signs)
3. **Easements-** *Jane Korest reported on the following:*
 - Len Needham's easement was approved by BOCC.
 - Glenn and Tilley's easement nearing closeout
 - Nancy Herndon wants to donate a conservation easement on 24 acres. After discussion a motion was made by Neil Frank to recommend the BOCC accept this donation, 2nd by Nicole Connelly. Motion passed
 - Farmland Board reviewed a draft resolution to the BOCC. After discussion and motion was made by Neil Frank, seconded by Nicole Connelly to submit the resolution. Motion passed
4. **Ag Economic Development update-** Mike Dupree gave an ag economic development update to the board.
 - The Board allocated \$1,125 to sponsor three informational breakfast to be held this winter. The dates and topics include: December 19, 2019 at the Bahama Ruritan Center will focus on grant opportunities and cost share programs for farmers; January 16, 2019 at the Bahama Ruritan Center will have a guest speaker regarding climate or pollinators; and February 20, 2020 at the Durham Public Schools Hillandale Staff Development Center the 3rd Annual Creating Opportunities for Minorities in the Local Food System panel discussion. A motion was made by John Monroe to approve up to \$375 per breakfast for a total of \$1125. This amount includes \$125 rental fee for the Bahama Ruritan. Nicole Connelly seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Neil Frank sustained from voting)

- The Agriculture Economic Development Grant Committee received twenty-two farm applications requesting \$170,580.50 for projects and four school projects requesting \$3378. The grant review committee allocated funds.

5. **Ordinance Committee update**- No update

6. **Farm Campus**- Board discussed the need regarding a feasibility study.

NEW BUSINESS

Next Meeting–November 14th, at 8am. The meeting will be held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, Chairman, Will Wilson adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am.

Chairman

Eddie Culberson
Soil and Water Director

Date approved