

June 28, 2006

The Tewksbury Township Agricultural Advisory Committee met at 5:43 pm on the above date at the Mountainville Meeting Hall 60 Water Street, Mountainville.

Members present were: Shaun C. Van Doren, chairman, and J. Miller Craig. Not present: Theodore G. Koven.

Mr. Van Doren read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement indicating the meeting was noticed by the Township Clerk on June 5, 2006.

MINUTES

Mr. Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2006. Mr. Van Doren seconded the motion. AYES: 2, NAYS: 0.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following pieces of correspondence were received:

A press release from the SADC dated March 28, 2006 indicating they are looking for quality farms for the expedited preservation programs;

Four letters dated April 4, 2006 from Shana Crane with the annual reviews of the 4 PIGs;

A letter dated April 17, 2006 from Susan Craft, SADC regarding PIG procedures;

A letter dated April 26, 2006 from the NJ Conservation Foundation regarding the farmland preservation application for the Black River Corridor:

A memo dated April 28, 2006 from Shana Crane regarding the Tewksbury Associates application and farm profile.

A letter dated May 22, 2006 from Susan Craft, SADC regarding federal farm and ranch lands protection fund in non-highlands areas.

A letter dated June 1, 2006 from Paul Burns, SADC, regarding the revised appraisal order checklist.

A letter dated June 8, 2006 from Susan Craft, SADC regarding SADC adoption of policy P-47:FY2006 Highlands Preservation Appropriation Expenditures.

Applications

Mr. Van Doren indicated the following:

The Kneser's accepted the Township's offer of \$ 18,000 per acre.

Preserved farmland signs are to go up on Watts-Hitchcock and Turnquist; sign is already up at Wade property.

The appraisals have been ordered for the Koebel property.

The Young closing is still pending with the County and State.

The Tewksbury Associates application was discussed including Ms. Crane's memo of April 28. Additional information is needed before a course of action can be recommended to the Township Committee. Mr. Van Doren will have Ms. Crane send a letter asking the following:

1. The application requests severable exceptions but believe that to be in error and that all exceptions should be non-severable. Please confirm.

2. Would the new house site on Lot 23.01 affect any open farm fields that are currently farmed? If so, are there alternative sites on the lot to place a home site with little disruption to farming and agriculture currently on the property? How much land (acreage) would actually be disturbed with the construction of the house and septic field?

3. Would the new home site on Lot 23.01 replace the rental property on the lot which presently is located on Hollow Brook Road, i.e., would this house be removed once a new house was built or would it be in addition to the new house? If it is in addition to the new house please be advised the Zoning Board of Adjustment approval would be required and that any farmland preservation funds could be conditional upon that approval.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.



Shaun C. Van Doren