

January 21, 2008

The Tewksbury Township Agricultural Advisory Committee met at 6:00 pm on the above date at the Mountainville Meeting Hall 60 Water Street, Mountainville.

Members present were: Shaun C. Van Doren, chairman, Theodore G. Koven, Peter L. Melick, Scott Clucas and Hank Klumpp.

Mr. Van Doren read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement indicating the meeting was noticed by the Township Clerk on January 14, 2008.

REORGANIZATION

Membership

Mr. Van Doren announced the following Mayoral appointments:

Peter Melick – Farmer member to complete the unexpired term of Miller Craig through 12/31/2009.

Scott Clucas – Farmer member for a 1 year term through 12/31/2008

Hank Klumpp – Farmer member for a 1 year term through 12/31/2008

Election of Chair

Mr. Koven made a motion to nominate Shaun Van Doren as Chairman, seconded by Mr. Clucas. AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Establishment of Meetings

Mr. Van Doren indicated that there had been not been set days/months for meetings but they were held as needed with 48 hour notice as required under the Open Public Meetings Act. All were in agreement to maintain that schedule and schedule meetings as needed.

Review/Signature of Conflict of Interest and Decorum Policy

Mr. Van Doren distributed the conflict of interest and decorum policy and oaths of office. All were signed and returned.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Minutes

Mr. Koven made a motion to approve the regular session minutes of September 24, 2007, seconded by Mr. Van Doren. AYES: 2, NAYS: 0, ABSTAIN: 3.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was received:

1. A memo from Paul Burns, Real Estate Appraiser at the SADC dated October 5, 2007 re: Appraisal Order Checklist;
2. A memo dated November 5, 2007 from Susan Craft, SADC Ex. Director re: SADC Policy P-49: Placement of septic systems to service structures on exception areas.

3. A letter dated November 8, 2007 with a Farmland Preservation Agreement for the Brady Farm, Block 50 Lot 1.
4. A letter from Heidi Winzinger, Chief of Acquisition at the SADC dated December 12, 2007 re SADC 2006 Direct Easement application for Moros Block 14 Lot 9.01 Farmersville Road asking if the Township wants additional ROW. The Township Committee responded that it did not based on the Township Engineer's recommendation.
5. A letter dated December 4, 2007 with the certification of development easement value for the Koebel Farm, Block 38 Lot 4.01 Lot 1.
6. A copy of a letter dated December 11, 2007 to Teresa Koebel from Shana Goodchild re: the certified value for her farm and requesting a response on its acceptance before February 8, 2008.
7. A letter from Heidi Winzinger, Chief of Acquisition at the SADC dated December 14, 2007 re SADC 2006 Direct Easement application for Simpson Block 19 Lots 11.05, 11.06 & 11.07 Alder Creeke Road asking if the Township wants additional ROW. The Township Committee responded that it did not based on the Township Engineer's recommendation.
8. A copy of a letter dated December 19, 2007 to Thomas DiBianca, Esq. attorney for the Kneser's from Heidi Winzinger, Chief of Acquisition at the SADC, re: a conservation easement on their property Block 43 Lot 3.02. Mr. Van Doren commented that the Kneser's are working with the Brady's to extinguish the conservation easement so that the farmland easement covers the entire property outside the non-severable exception area.

STATUS OF PENDING FARMLAND APPLICATIONS

Mr. Van Doren reviewed the status of the various applications as reported by Shana Goodchild, Land Use Administrator:

Young

The Township has filed a complaint in court.

Kneser

Survey and title work are complete. There is an easement issue that has delayed the closing.

Storms

Closed on 1/3/08

Crimi/Serenity Hills Farm

Landowner has accepted the value offered. SADC needs some forms completed to determine if landowner qualifies for Federal funding and if he'll accept additional impervious coverage restrictions.

Koebel

SADC has certified the value at \$ 24,500 per acre. A letter has been sent to the property owner for her to either accept or reject the value.

Vernon

Both the Township and landowner will have to sign the SADC's contract and deed of easement. If the landowner has taken a mortgage on the property SADC will need subordination from the lender.

Eliot B. Stewart & James C. Brady

The SADC granted final approval of both applications. The agreements were mailed to the landowner in the beginning of November.

Emmet III

The revisions to the survey are being made.

Tauber

Closed

Tewksbury Associates (Von Culin)

SADC has a few questions about the existing cottage and barn apartment that need to be answered by the property owner. Letter was sent to Tewksbury Associates requesting clarification.

Melick

Appraisals are being reviewed by SADC for a Certified Value. SADC needed clarification on the landscape business which Mr. & Mrs. Melick provided.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

Mr. Van Doren reviewed the draft Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP) and Funding Applications. No action is needed at this time as it was prepared by the Township Planner and sent to the SADC where they are reviewing and will provide comments back. Mr. Melick requested copies for the new members to review. Mr. Van Doren will have copies made and mailed.

Mr. Melick asked if the AAC could receive copies of proposed ordinances where any changes could be detrimental to agriculture. Mr. Van Doren will pass request on to Land User Administrator.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Shaun C. Van Doren