

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 9 (Farmland Advisory Board) Date: January 17, 2013

Advisory Board Present:

Will Wilson- 2nd Vice Chairman
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD
Roger Tilley- At Large
Gus Gray- Cape Fear VAD
John Monroe- At Large
Mark Waller- Farm Bureau Representative
Demetrius Thompson- At Large
Samantha Gasson- At Large
Wendy Jacobs- BOCC Representative
Kathryn Spann-(Via teleconference) - Chairman

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water, Director
Lisa Marochak-Soil & Water
Mike Dupree- Soil & Water
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water
Wendy Seddon- Open Space & Real-Estate
Jane Korest- Manager, Open Space

The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Thursday, January 17, 2013 and called to order at 8:05am by the 2nd Vice-Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street in the second floor conference room.

1. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Gus Gray to approve the minutes from November 8, 2012 and December 20, 2012. Samantha Gasson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
2. **Financial Report**- No update
3. **VAD update**- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:
 - The company that we normally order VAD signs from has doubled the price they charge. The farmland Board suggested that Marochak contact the Durham County General Services Department and see if they can make the signs.
4. **Membership Update**-
 - **New Member**- Will Wilson welcomed Commissioner, Wendy Jacobs (BOCC Representative) to the board.
 - **Election of Officers**- A motion was made by John Monroe to nominate Kathryn Spann as Chair of the Farmland Preservation Board. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. A motion was made by Samantha Gasson to nominate Neil Frank as Vice Chair. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. Samantha Gasson made a motion to nominate Will Wilson as 2nd Vice Chair of the Farmland Preservation Board. Mark Waller seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
5. **Easement Updates**- Jane Korest reported on the following:
 - **Federal Farm & Ranchland Grant**- deadline February 15
 - Korest is meeting to talk with a couple of potential easement candidates this week.

- **Subcommittee-** will meet to look at potential easement applicants after Farmland breakfast.
6. **Breakfast/Brochure update**
 - **Location:** The 3rd breakfast will be held on February 20th at Gus & Sue Gray's home. The topic of the 3rd breakfast will be GAP/Institutional Sales. Michelle Wallace is trying to line up a speaker from NC State to do GAP Certification.
 - **Invitations-** Marochak will mail out invitations and send them via email to the board members. Any board member that wishes to have some printed please contact Lisa Marochak.
 - **Market Brochure-** Marochak will send out a copy of the brochure to the Farmland Board.
 7. **Ag Development Coordinator-**
 - **County Purchasing Project-** In talks with the Durham County Sheriff's Department to try and find a way for producers to sell product to the Durham County Detention Center.
 - Biggest barrier is GAP certification which is a possible topic for the February Farmer Appreciation Breakfast.
 8. **Zoning Update-** Kathryn Spann reported on the following:
 - **Planning Commission-** Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Provisions regarding farmers markets and urban farming were unanimously recommended by the Planning Commission.
 9. **Legislative Tour-** A subcommittee will meet on February 4th to start making plans for a Legislative Tour this spring.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Disclosure Forms-** Marochak passed out a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement that all Farmland Board members are required to sign on a yearly basis.
2. **Farmers Market in Northern Durham-** Wendy Jacobs reported that when the BOCC met with citizens at the Bahama Ruritan and Northern High School, the citizens expressed that they would like to see a farmers market in Northern Durham.

Next Meeting Date – February 21, 2013 at 8am- 721 Foster St; Durham, NC 27701

Adjourn – With no further discussion or business, 2nd Vice-Chairman Will Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:00am.

Will Wilson

2nd Vice-Chairman