

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
January 20, 2015 Minutes

In attendance: George and Grayson Asprocolas, Robin and Rieks Bruins, Marty Bullock, Pat Butch, Bill Carney, Gary DeFelice, Denise Emmons (AHS FFA), Gabi Grunstein, Wickie Hom, Roberta Hunter, Nyna McKittrick, Chuck Palmer, Jeremy Posluszny (AHS FFA), Bill Potter, Renee Stillwell (AHS FFA), Anna and Angelo Trapani, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn and Meg Whitehouse.

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Butch at 7:38 PM.

Correspondence

NJ Green Industry Council – membership request  
Department of Agriculture – Ag Convention information  
NJ Farm Bureau – membership goal check  
Ag Society Association – request to address February meeting  
Bill Sciarappa – request for \$500 for 4-H

Marty Bullock moved to accept the minutes of the December 16, 2014 meeting. Rieks Bruins seconded the motion which passed.

Treasurer Gary DeFelice reported a balance of \$13,971.24 in checking and \$6,564.98 in the money market. Our current membership count is 680 representing 83% of our quota.

Marty Bullock moved to send \$125 to the Green Industry council for membership. Anna Trapani seconded the motion which was approved.

Bill Potter made a motion, seconded by Wickie Hom to appropriate \$500 for use by 4-H to reimburse 4-H leaders for fingerprinting so that they can meet the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. The motion was approved.

Extension

Report is attached

Board of Managers

There will be bus tours sponsored by the Board of Managers to the research stations. 56 people will fill each of two buses, one North, one South.

FFA

Renee informed us that a national officer will be attending the Annual Breakfast during FFA Week in Monmouth County at the end of February. The Annual Gift Auction is March 28. 150 pet supplies have been collected to donate. Citrus sale was the highest ever. Check out the Allentown FFA website for new commercials. Ben Wainwright will be asked to speak at our dinner where the chapters will again entertain us.

SADC

Bill Potter reported on the proposed regulations on soil disturbance on preserved farms.

## FDS

March 15 is the date for peppers and squash catastrophic coverage. Livestock losses due to Sandy may be reported until January 31<sup>st</sup>. A new fact sheet is available on equipment losses.

## Department of Agriculture

Bill Walker reported on the Farm to School program and the Department of Defense system to locally sourced food used, we want NJ grown food utilized.

## State Board of Agriculture

Our next meeting will be at the NJ Plant Show. Food Corp is a national program, partnering with Rutgers University, matching recent college grads and school gardens.

## Young Farmers and Ranchers

Next meeting is 1/29/15.

## State FFA

State Officers Candidate School is January 31, 2015.

## Farm Bureau

Wetlands definition in NJ is stricter than the federal guidelines. A harvest of a crop is required by DEP within 5 years, yet cranberry farmers have stopped harvesting some fields because of low prices. This has caused controversy between farmers and the DEP.

## Woman's Committee

We had a great convention and are headed to Tennessee.

## Tri-County

We will have a booth at the convention. New projects have been the roof, a paved parking lot and signs. We will meet Feb. 21 at the Mason Lodge.

## Old Business

Dinner Committee – Gary DeFelice will meet with this committee.

Stakeholders Meeting – Pat Butch and Robin Bruins will meet with Bill Sciarappa to plan.

Twilight Meeting – August 12 to learn about Rutgers hazelnut project. Rain date is the 13<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will run \$18-\$21. Pat Butch called about buses. Monmouth County farmers get first shot. Bill has some funds.

Ag Convention – Pat Butch sent the list of resolutions.

## New Business

Marty Bullock reported that some counties are sending letters to SADC. They hope to hold the vote until March. The State Board has no official stand on the soil disturbance question. Chuck Palmer mentioned that the horse industry has been devastated by the SADC. Nyna Mckittrick urged us to utilize social media. She moved to write a letter outlining our concerns and asking that the Governor look into the impact to farmers and the future of the Garden State that this regulation would have. Meg Whitehouse seconded the motion. A motion to amend the motion to send one letter now and one after the convention to the Governor and to each member of the SADC was made. George Asprocolas

seconded the amendment. The amendment passed. Chuck Palmer and Gary DeFelice will compose the letter. Marty Bullock will send comments.

Princeton Nursery farms are being sold by Skeba Real Estate.

A Farm Bureau pilot program offers 4-H seniors free membership.

Nyna Mckittrick will go to Louisiana for the leadership program. She thanked us for our support.

She will share the knowledge of utilizing social media with us.

Bill Potter moved to adjourn at 9:29. Riex Bruins seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Bruins

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
February 17, 2015 Minutes

In Attendance: Geroge Asprocolas, Rieks and Robin Bruins, Marty Bullock, Pat Butch, Billy Carney, Gary DeFelice, Trudy Dittmar, Stuart Faunce, Gabi Grunstein, Kris Guttadona, Wickie Hom, Roberta Hunter, Carmine Infante, Joe Infante Sn., Joe Infante Jr., Rocco Infante Jr., William H. McCormack, Jerry Verrico, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn, and Garrett Woolf

President Pat Butch opened the meeting at 7:35PM. Marty Bullock moved to accept the minutes. Seconded by Rieks Bruins, the minutes were approved. Robin Bruins read corrections to the January minutes which had been presented by Gabby Gabnor. Gabby moved to accept the amended minutes. Gary DeFelice seconded the motion which passed.

The Treasurer reported a balance in the checking account of \$13,298.24 and \$6565.55 in the money market account. Rieks Bruins moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Wickie Hom seconded this motion which carried.

#### Correspondence

- Rob Swanekamp – split funding
- Ag Society – invitation to Annual Gala
- Atlantic Co. Board of Ag – retirement replacements
- Allentown FFA – Thank you and invitation to breakfast
- State Ag Development

“NJ Agricultural Leadership Development Program” presentation by Program Director Kristine Guttadona.

#### 4-H

Roberta Hunter distributed “The Lucky 4-H'er Gazette”. A Healthy Living Summit is being planned. “Come Grow with Us” will be offered at the Monmouth Co. Library informing the public of extension services available such as Master Gardeners and 4-H. Monmouth Co. has received a \$10,000 grant for having the most alumni. 90% compliance has been reached in volunteer background checks.

#### Board of Managers

No report

#### Young Farmers and Ranchers

We are gaining sponsorship support and membership.

#### NJ FFA

The National Policy Meeting will be held in Washington DC on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Questions can be sent to Stuart regarding this.

#### FSA

You can update yields with the PCB program. You have the opportunity to reallocate base acres. New loans are available to purchase handling equipment and food safety equipment. March 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for NAP crops.

#### Department of Agriculture

Report is attached. Bill Walker also reported that there is an opportunity to donate to the food pantry on your IRS form. February 26 is FFA Advocacy Day in Trenton and March 14<sup>th</sup> is Ag in the City.

#### State Board of Agriculture

Marty Bullock will speak during New Business

#### Farm Bureau

Report is attached. Ed Wengryn described the three different proposals for division of preservation money.

#### Woman's Committee

No report

#### Tri-County Coop

George Asprocolas informed us that they now have a tomato chiller.

#### FFA

Since there was no school today due to the weather, students were not allowed to attend our meeting. Billy Carney represented them and welcomed us to join him at the Sponsor's Breakfast 2/25/15 at Allentown. National FFA Officer Caleb Justin will be at the breakfast and will join other FFA members in National FFA Week celebrations. March 13 and 14 is the Hort. Expo and the NJ Alumni Workshop. Allentown HS has had 100 applicants for three CASE spots.

#### New Business

Our annual dinner will be held on March 5, 2015 at the American Hotel. Joe McCarthy, past chair of the Ag Development Board will be honored.

Soil Disturbance on Preserved Farms is of major concern for the agriculture industry. Our board sent a survey and opinion poll to Monmouth County preserved and non-preserved farm owners. Pat Butch read the proposed Ag Convention resolution that encouraged SADC to work with a committee composed various agricultural organizations to formulate other alternative solutions agreeable to all. It is encouraged that members send letter to the Governor and legislators. The SADC may be over reaching their intended power. Thresh holds are needed. Monmouth County Ag Board will write a follow up letter based on the board's discussion at this meeting, the outcome of the survey and opinion poll and the convention resolution. The County Ag Development Board will be submitting a letter also.

Stakeholders Meeting is April 21, 2015 at 5:00 PM. Larry Katz will be present to hear the needs of the county. A report will be sent to the Board of Managers.

Twilight meeting, hazelnut production, will be held 8/13/15.

Fair Committee reported that Anna Trapani will be purchasing the give-away bags. George Asprocolas moved to set this year's Fair budget at \$1500 to be offset by sponsorships. Stuart Faunce seconded the motion that passed.

#### Board of Managers

Marty Bullock moved to nominate Pat Butch for a 3 year term, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 to the NJAES Board of Managers. The motion was seconded by Wickie Hom and passed. The nominee then goes for confirmation to the Board of Governors.

We will investigate the potential of a second Monmouth County Ag Agent. The county pays half of the salary.

Marty Bullock moved to write a letter regarding the split of preservation money next month. We wish to see the farmland preservation program receive the same share as in the Garden State Trust program. This motion was seconded by Wickie Hom and passed.

Discussion was held on deer numbers in county parks. Pat Butch will invite a park representative to a meeting.

Gary DeFelice moved to adjourn at 9:45 PM. Riex Bruins seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Bruins

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
March 17, 2015  
Minutes

In attendance: Pat Butch, George Asprocolas, Rieks and Robin Bruins, Marty Bullock, Billy Carney, Ross Clayton, Dale Cruzan, Gray DeFelice, Stuart Faunce, Gabi Grunstein, Wickie Hom, Bill Potter, Bill Sciarappa, Anna and Angelo Trapani, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn, and Meg Whitehouse

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Butch at 7:30 PM. Marty Bullock moved to accept the February 17<sup>th</sup> minutes. Gabi Grunstein offered information to amend the minutes. Marty Bullock moved to amend the February 17, 2015 minutes. Ross Clayton seconded the amendment which was approved.

Gary DeFelice reported a checking account balance of \$15,424.74 as of March 17, 2015 and \$6566.06 in the money market account. Ross Clayton moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Bill Potter seconded the motion which carried.

#### Correspondence

1. Robert Goodman, Pat Butch's term on the NJAES Board of Managers ends June 30, 2015, request for nominee.
2. Morris County Board of Agriculture, Regional meeting on March 19, 2015
3. Farm Bureau, request for \$250 donation to Young Farmers and Ranchers
4. NJAES Board of Managers, request for \$200/county board for bus tour
5. NJ Association of Soil Districts, request to sponsor Envirothon on May 2, 2015

Angelo Trapani moved to donate \$500 to Young Farmers and Ranchers. Stuart Faunce seconded the motion which passed.

#### Reports

##### Young Farmers and Ranchers

Many competitions and conferences have been offered this year, including a mini Twilight meeting.

##### Board of Managers

Pat Butch submitted a report which is attached.

Bill Potter moved to donate \$200 for the bus trip. Seconded by George Asprocolas, this motion was approved. Robin Bruins was approved to attend the trip with Anna Trapani as an alternate. Pat Butch will contact the Freeholders.

Marty Bullock moved to donate \$200 for the Envirothon. Ross Clayton seconded the motion which carried.

##### Monmouth County Cooperative Extension

Bill Sciarappa reported that the Monmouth County, RCE department's budget is \$422,000 which includes raises. He has a 4 year project for Bio Energy training. Botany professor training is on- going, as is water training for farmers. A Basil Workshop will deal with Downy Mildew issues. Over a hundred people attended the Central Jersey Vegetable meeting. The Stakeholder's meeting flyer was distributed.

4-H

Report is attached.

Master Gardeners

No report

Family & Community Health Sciences

No report

Ag Development Board

Bill Potter reported that this board will meet at the end of the week.

FSA

Gabi Grunstein submitted a report which is attached. He reminded us of the upcoming Sorghum Referendum voting and the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline to update yield history or reallocate base acres.

NJ Department of Agriculture

Bill Walker reported that the newsletter has not been distributed as of this date. He did speak about the Ag in the City program for people who have trouble accessing fresh food.

NJ State Board of Agriculture

Meeting tomorrow to discuss the recent soil disturbance issue, the State Board will meet at 1:00 PM. Pat Butch will attend with the opinion polls that were submitted.

Young Farmers and Ranchers

Stuart Faunce thanked the Board for the \$500 donation. They will meet April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Farmhouse. Recently, they visited the Food Innovation Center.

NJ FFA

25 FFA chapters are registered in NJ. 803 entries were displayed by 550 students at the Hort Expo. Vinnie was recognized as the winner of Best of Show. Check out our facebook site, NJFFA.

Farm Bureau

Ed Wengryn distributed Talking points for boards and individuals to advocate on behalf of Farmland Preservation funding. You can email a letter supporting the restoration of funding to previous funding levels.

Gary DeFelice moved to write a letter in support of this issue. Anna Trapani seconded the motion which passed.

#### Women's Committee

Anna Trapani reported that eight new programs and books will be presented to instruct teachers how to present information about agriculture.

#### Tri-County Coop

George Asprocolas noted 4/17 and 4/18 as work days. Their annual meeting was held on 2/2/1/15. Extra money to purchase a forklift was appropriated. Buyer payment is \$100.

#### Old Business

Final plans have been made for our Annual Dinner tomorrow night.

Stakeholder's Meeting – Come one, come all.

August Twilight Meeting – another conference call is planned. Robin Bruins will contact Twin Oaks Catering. We are ready to take reservations. Give your check to Gary DeFelice. Bill Sciarappa offered to subsidize so that the cost will be \$15/person.

#### New Business

Second Monmouth County Agent is needed since the Ornamental Specialist was placed in Southern NJ. A committee will go to the county to request financial assistance. Marty, Bill P. volunteered to be on the committee.

Bill Potter moved to adjourn. Seconded by Stuart Faunce, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Bruins

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
April 21, 2015 Minutes

In Attendance: Sabrina Brown, Robin Bruins, Pat Butch, Marty Bullock, Bill Carney, Ross Clayton, Jon Dancer, Gary DeFelice, Tom Fobes, Gabi Brunstein, Wickie Hom, Roberta Hunter, Doreen Jakubcak, Diane Larson, Anna Luiten, Allison Mains, Michael Marchia, Nyna McKittrick, Tom Orgo II, Tom Orgo III, Randy Peck, Rebecca Carmeli-Peslak, Jonathan Pinhas, Bill Sciarappa, Renee Stillwell, Ed Struk, Rachel Tansey, Anna and Angelo Tranpani, Jim Truncer, Ed Wengryn, Steven Williams, Jim Wikoff, Garrett Woolf

President Pat Butch called the meeting to order at 7:54 PM. Bill Potter gave the invocation. Nyna moved to approve the March minutes. Seconded by Ross Clayton, the motion passed. Our Treasurer reported a current checking account balance of \$15,424.74 and \$6566.57 in our money market account. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Bill Potter, seconded by Jim Wykoff and passed.

**Correspondence**

Lillian G. Burry – thank you note for Agricultural Dinner invitation  
Joanna Tumminello, Mon. Co. 4-H Association President - thank you for donation  
Joseph A. Maugeri, Jr. President VGANJ – letter to Dr. Goodman financially supporting a Crop Weed Science Specialist  
NJDA Block Grant Funds  
NJ Ag Society – request to recruit members for Class 10  
NJ ag liaison job opportunity notice  
Nancy Wood - \$150 request  
Patty Titen – request to host booth at Freedom Fest State Fair – this request was denied  
Ben Wainwright- application  
Max Span – Warren Co. land sale

**Presentation by Wildlife Commission**

Committee was formed to work on this topic: William H. McCormick, Bill Potter, Garrett Woolf, Tom Oryo III, Nyna McKittrick and Robin Bruins.

**Reports**

FFA  
Upcoming events: tractor raffle, Spring CDE, State Convention, Plant Sale at Horse Park and Land Judging. \$7000 was made at gift auction.

RCE

A new variety of strawberry plants is available at Kubepak  
Annual report  
BOA and FFA to receive Ru Red Leaf Lettuce and Red Romaine  
36,000 field trials planned  
Ru-RCE-NJAES Stakeholders meeting  
NJ Vegetable and Blueberry Growers will financially assist new RuSpecialist hires  
County governments in North and South Jersey will fund a new Ag/Hort Program Associate  
Ru/Sebs creates new urban Ag position as a Dean  
Collier School in Manalapan needs a farmer instructor/manager for a new school farm

4-H

Attached

Master Gardeners

Diane was on TV. All Master Gardeners will meet here next week. Shade Tree Forum at the Fire Academy will focus on bats and bees. Lots of winter damage. May 16 and 17 is plant sale.

Family Health and Community

Rachael works with all ages, youth to seniors. SNAP – stresses how to spend wisely.

Board of Managers

Pat Butch reported on a great tour including Haskins Resource Center.

County Ag Development

Wall township issue may be resolved by May. Amanda Brockwell resigned.

FSA

NAP deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> –crops that are not generally insured, including transplants. Check the newsletter for information on the Farm Storage Facility opportunity.

Department of Ag

Bill Walker emailed the newsletter.

NJ Board of Ag

Locally grown is in the public comment phase. A second meeting is scheduled for soil disturbance.

Young Farmers and Ranchers

No Report, Stuart was at Fire School

Farm Bureau

We are working with legislature o Governor's Proposal on Preservation. We need to have those allocations changed. Farmland assessment meetings have concluded, but we can still host a meeting for counties who have not yet hosted one. There is discussion to have state estate tax match federal. Food safety education continues.

Women's committee

We instructed how to teach ag in the classroom using games and seeds at William Patterson University.

Tri-County Coop

We had a successful work day. Thanks to Jim Wikoff who built a handicap accessible ramp. We comply with Food Safety regulations. Greens are coming in.

**Old Business**

Our dinner was a success

Stakeholders Meeting – we have received a request to donate \$250 toward the food but Larry Katz paid for the refreshments.

Twilight Meeting – RCE will donate so that each participant will only need to pay \$15. Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County will be the customer name.

**New Business**

Send a small group to a freeholder meeting and then meet to discuss ARMA strategic plan. Jim Wikoff moved to set up a committee to acquire a second agent, with the Freeholders to pay half the salary.

Seconded by Angelo Trapani, the motion carried with one opposed.

Scholarship applications are due May 10<sup>th</sup>. We have received one.

To update the website, email Vivian and copy Bill

NJ Farmers Direct Marketing meeting is May 19, 2015. Angelo Trapani moved to donate \$100. The motion which was seconded by Marty Bullock, passed. George Aspercolas will be our Delegate. Anna Trapani will be our alternate. Bill Potter moved to adjourn. Nyna McKittrick seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robin Bruins

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
Sept. 15, 2015 Minutes

In Attendance: George Asprocolas, Robin Bruins, Pat Butch, Bill Carney, Ross Clayton, Dale Cruzan, Gary DeFelice, Roberta Hunter, Randy Peck, Bill Potter, Bill Sciarappa, Renee Stillwell, Anna and Angelo Trapani, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn, Meg Whitehouse, and Jim Wikoff.

Correspondence

1. Delegates Package
2. Thank you note – Rachel Tansey, MA Senior FCHS Extension Associate
3. Thank you note - Ben Wainwright, MBOA scholarship recipient
4. Request for Ag Fair Status – Freedom Fest State Fair
5. Oct. 23, 2015 deadline announcement for Trustees – NJ Ag Society
6. Oct. 23, 2015 Ag leadership awards at [www.njagsociety.org](http://www.njagsociety.org) – NJ Ag Society

Bill Potter moved to accept the Secretary's minutes on the May Executive Committee meeting with the correction of the date from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. This motion was approved after being seconded by Bill Carney. Gary DeFelice informed us that Nyna McKittrick's mother had passed and requested that the secretary send a note of condolence. Since Monmouth County Fair and Open Space Pace have not requested ag fair status, the Secretary will send a reminder. In other correspondence, two letters with checks were mailed to our scholarship recipients.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Pat Butch. Gary DeFelice reported checking account balances – June: \$13,420.43, July: \$13,420.43, August: \$13,935.43 and September: \$13,145.43. Money Market balances were – June: \$6,567.73, July: \$6,568.30, August: \$6,568.87 and September: \$6,357.73. Anna Trapani moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Meg Whitehouse, the motion was approved.

Extension

Bill Sciarappa sent his report out on September 15, 2015. He added that we will be able to see the late tomatoes at the Twilight Meeting. The Open Space Pace is a 501C3 and awarded \$1000 after each race to other charitable organizations for a total of \$12,000.

FFA

Upcoming fundraisers will benefit the chapters as they prepare for the National Convention held the end of October. Tractor raffle tickets and bulb sales will benefit the Allentown and Northern Burlington chapters. Madison Laughlin and Renee Stillwell placed 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> respectively at the leadership conference.

Anna Trapani moved to donate \$650 to FFA students attending the National FFA Convention. George Asprocolas seconded the motion which passed.

Anna and Angelo Trapani received a plaque and honorary degree from the FFA.

Case Institute for seniors was hosted by Allentown, this allows students to receive college credits.

4-H

Attached

Master Gardeners

Bugs, Birds and Beyond was attended by a thousand people. There is a new Jr. Master Gardeners Class. Pinelands Nursery has a 6 x 30 foot Common Milkweed Plot, essential for the Monarch butterfly.

Family and Community Health Sciences  
Attached

Board of Managers

Our first meeting will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month. They will host a discussion to look into how to dedicate a sum of money to be set aside for each commodity for research or other purposes that would benefit their commodity group.

Ag Development Board

Bill Potter reported that the CLC hearings in Wall Township have concluded. The Ag Development Board proposed a definition to help facilitate the new state winery probationary program.

Department of Ag

Bill Walker informed us that Bill Sciarappa was on TV at the Bullock Farm Brewery. In the future, more farm breweries may become more like the winery commodity, working together to promote their industry.

Deadline for the Distinguished Service Award is Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. The lack of a "Local" definition has caused chains not to accept point of sale brochures. A review of "Jersey Fresh" logo usage informed us that inspections must be done along with a \$30 fee. Let Bill know if changes to the updated website are needed. A marketing person and two interns have been hired. If you utilize Facebook, update daily. Ag Achievement Award applications are due January 16<sup>th</sup>. You can support the food bank on the NJ Tax Form.

FSA

Gabi is on vacation. We will get updates at the next meeting.

State Board of Agriculture

Angelo Trapani is now on the board and Marty Bullock is the President. Buyers are encouraged to comment on "Locally grown". Dr. Tomassia informed us of Avian Flu concerns.

Young Farmers and Ranchers

Anna Trapani reported that \$10 movie nights have been held all summer at the Etsch Farm with great success.

Farm Bureau

Delegates must be selected for the Ag convention and Farm Bureau convention. Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> Policy development meeting will be held to decide on the issues. Some will be: Right to farm for bee keepers, 16 year old driving licenses, corporate business tax on open space funding. Let your legislator know that ag needs our fair share. You can read the policy on line.

Womans Committee

Anna Trapani reported that advice was given to William Patterson and Ocean County schools on teaching ag issues. She moved to donate \$250 for the Harvest Drive for the Hungry. Robin Bruins seconded the motion which carried. A friendly amendment to increase the amount to \$350 was approved. Anna will attend the National Farm Bureau convention Oct. 12 in Washington DC.

#### Tri- County

George Aspercolas informed us that the co-op can be contacted regarding ornamentals.

#### Old Business

1. Twilight meeting at Rutgers netted \$288.29 for our scholarships. Four growers are needed for the \$100 hazelnut trees ordered.
2. Wildlife Management follow-up – the County Park wants a regional approach. Farm Bureau will facilitate.

#### New Business

1. There will be a Twilight meeting at Cream Ridge research farm.

George Asprocolas moved to adjourn. Seconded by Anna Trapani, the meeting was adjourned.

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
Minutes  
October 20, 2015

In Attendance: Robin Bruins, Pat Butch, Bill Carney, Trevor Coffey, Gary DeFelice, Gabi Grunstein, Wickie Hom, Diane Larsen, Allison Mains, Bill Potter, Joanna Ricci, Bill Sciarappa, Anna and Angelo Trapani, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn and Jim Wikoff.

Bill Carney moved to accept the September 15, 2015 minutes and the minutes of the Reorganization meeting. Bill Potter seconded the motion which carried.

Gary DeFelice reported a balance of \$12,300.43 in our checking account and \$6358.24 in our money market account. Jim Wikoff moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. This motion was seconded by Bill Carney and was approved.

**Rutgers Cooperative Extension**

Bill Sciarappa's report was emailed

**Master Gardeners**

Diane Larsen reported that Garden Day, featuring a variety of lectures was a success. A help line was featured at the Open Space Pace. Graduation is slated for November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

4-H

No report

FCHS

No report

FFA

Joanna Ricci and Trevor Coffey informed us that three teams will represent Allentown at the National Convention. November 19, 2015 is the date for state competition. Citrus Sale begins November 2, 2015. Floral arrangements are available for Thanksgiving November 9-21. Don't forget the Turkey Dinner at the Hope Fire Co.

Department of Agriculture

Bill Walker will email his report

Board of Managers

No report

Ag Development

Bill Potter informed us that several farms are closing as preserved farms. A winery in Holmdel is under review.

FSA

Gabi Grunstein noted that November 16<sup>th</sup> is the filing date for forage and grazing acreage reporting. FSFL program loans for storage added commodities. Receipts will now be offered for service. Anna Trapani is our nominee for county representative.

#### NJ Board of Agriculture

Angelo Trapani informed us that Dr. Tomassino spoke to the Board regarding Avian Flu precautions. Comment period for “locally grown” has closed. No letters were received from Chain stores, only two from farmers during this comment opportunity. The Bee bills used a Florida standard as a template. Resolutions for the convention at Harrahs are being compiled.

#### Farm Bureau

Planning for the convention is top priority. Delegate Packets will be mailed next week. Rutgers Athletic Director will speak. Of interest, Ed commented, is a resolution to reject DEP Coastal Stream buffer and a simplification of the permit process.

Gary DeFelice informed us that we met quota and that he will pay for delegate meals for the convention.

#### Woman’s Committee

On behalf of the committee, Anna Trapani thanked us for the donation to the Woman’s Committee Harvest drive. Anna enjoyed the National Convention. Her experience was a “college course in three days.”

#### Tri-County

No report

#### Food Bank

No report

#### Old Business

Twilight meeting at Cream Ridge was well attended and informative.

The tabled motion to approve the Freedom Fest State Fair, the Open Space Pace and Monmouth County Fair for Ag Fair Status was brought to the floor. Bill Carney moved to approve all three. Anna Trapani seconded the motion which passed.

#### New Business

Farm Bureau asked for opinions on the possible granting of driver’s licenses to undocumented residents.

Farm Bureau Convention will be held November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

Farm Bureau will meet to finalize interest rates offered on Promissory Notes, such as the one that we have with Farm Bureau. The rate will be less than 2 ¼% until January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Bill Potter moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Anna Trapani.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robin Bruins

**Monmouth County Board of Agriculture  
December 15, 2015 Minutes**

In Attendance: Allentown FFA Members, George Asprocolas, Pat Butch, Robin Bruins, Bill Carney, Ross Clayton, Dan Crusan, Gary DeFelice, Dave Holmes, Wicki Hom, Bill McCormick, Gabi Grunstein, Bill Sciarappa, Anna and Angelo Trapani, Ed Wengryn, and Meg Whitehouse.

Correspondence

- Farm Bureau notification that we made quota and received \$500.
- Notification of NJ State Agricultural Convention and meeting of delegates

Bill Carney moved to accept the November minutes. This motion was seconded by Gary DeFelice and was approved.

Gary DeFelice reported that we have \$18,208.93 in checking and \$6,859.33 in our money market fund. Ross Clayton moved to accept the report. Seconded by Wicki Hom, the motion was approved.

Reports

FFA

Fall CDEs featured two Allentown teams which placed second and eighth. Thanksgiving floral arrangement sales surpassed last year's sales. Winter floral arrangements and Citrus/Pear boxes are now available. Third and Fourth graders will soon learn about agriculture from Allentown FFA students in the PALS program.

Extension

Bill Sciarappa submitted his report electronically.

4-H

No report

Master Gardeners

No report

Family & Community Health Sciences

No report

Board of Managers

A county survey will be conducted to assess current needs and service. A livestock summit was approved. March 10, 2016 a bus tour will be conducted in New Brunswick to see Jim Simon's laboratory and greenhouses and at the Snyder Farm in Hunderton County. Each county board of ag is requested to donate \$100 to offset costs. Two participants per county and a freeholder or legislator will be invited. Complete report submitted electronically.

Ag Development Board

Currently discussing new farms to be preserved. Several RTF cases are on appeal.

FSA

Gabi sent a report electronically. He announced that Anna Trapani will begin service as our county committee member on January 1, 2016.

Dept. of Ag.

Bill Walker sent the newsletter electronically.

NJ State Board of Ag

Angelo Trapani reported that they will meet tomorrow. 100 Christmas trees were donated to National Guard members. The Produce Council of NY informed the Board that packaged fruits and vegetables are the upcoming trend.

Farm Bureau

Ed Wengryn reported great activity with the end of the legislative session. Topics under discussion are: North Jersey casinos, ag motor vehicle regulations, Lemon Law on ag vehicles, and Open Space funding ratios. Gary DeFelice will contact Farm Bureau regarding our promissory note.

Women's Committee

Anna Trapani thanked us for our support.

Tri County

Now closed for the season, the coop realized an 8% increase in revenue. Their annual meeting will be held Feb. 27, 2016.

Food Bank

No report

Old Business

By Laws committee will continue to work on revising our bylaws. Meg Whitehouse will conduct a legal review.

New Business

Dinner will be held March 3, 2016 at the American Hotel in Freehold. The cost will be \$40/person. If you would like to help, contact Gary DeFelice or Anna Trapani.

Robin Bruins moved to donate \$100 to the Board of Managers for their bus tour. Seconded by Wicki Hom, the motion carried.

Pat Butch reviewed the Board of Managers survey with our members who offered their input to be included in the report.

Rutgers will be focusing on urban agriculture in the future.

Gary DeFelice moved to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Anna Trapani.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Bruins