

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture
Minutes
October 18, 2016

In Attendance: Cheyenne Archer, George Asprocolas, Rieks Bruins, Robin Bruins, Pat Butch, Bill Carney, Gary DeFelice, Wickie Hom, Doug Kaufman, Allison Mains, Bill McCormack, Matt Newman, Randy Peck, Beth Pine, Bill Sciarappa, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn, Jim Wikoff, and Sean Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Bill McCormack.

Jim Wikoff moved to accept the minutes of the September meeting. This motion was seconded by Gary DeFelice and passed.

Bill Carney moved to accept the Treasurer's Report pending audit. Seconded by Rieks Bruins, the motion was approved.

Doug Kauffman moved to accept the minutes of the 2016 Reorganization meeting. Jim Wikoff seconded this motion which carried.

Correspondence

Thank you from 8 FFA members going to National Convention for our donation
Cannabis Conference announcement from Cannibus Business Times

FFA

The Tractor Raffle will be drawn October 30, 2016 at New Egypt Agway. Citrus Sale will begin November 1st. Thanksgiving Centerpiece and Poinsettia sales are up coming. Several Allentown teams along with a National Scholarship recipient will head to Indianapolis soon.

Department of Agriculture

Rutgers will host a Beginner Farmer class tis Saturday. Bill Walker highlighted other news articles from the newsletter.

FSA

Beth Pine notified us about the November 15th deadline.

Ag Development Board

Pat Butch reported that there are no Right to Farm cases currently. They are looking at farms to be preserved since funding is now available. Funds are also available for fencing and natural resource management on preserved farms.

Board of Managers

We will be planning Northern, Central, Southern and Urban tours to highlight the importance of the Ag Experiment Stations and hope for funding.

Farm Bureau

The Governor signed the Transportation Trust Bill. Ed Wengryn reported that you can apply for a Red Dye exemption because of a federal mandate that stipulates that this fuel cannot be taxed. A five year ban on bear hunting has been proposed.

4-H

Matt Newman announced that Stella Almeda received a National 4-H award. He has contacted all FFA chapters in the county to work cooperatively. A Capital Experience is being planned with the state legislators.

Tri County

Ornamental season is in full swing with opportunities to buy and sell three nights a week. George Asprocolas informed us of the frustration that many farmers experience when trying to comply with health department requirements. A universal code would be helpful. This is a municipal issue.

Young Farmers and Ranchers

Next meeting the Sunday before the Farm Bureau Convention

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolutions for Farm Bureau Convention

Deer Damage Summit with town representatives, park officials and large land owners.

Annual Dinner – we decided to have the dinner at the American Hotel, preferably the same room as last year. Suggested dates are February 16, March 2, or March 7.

We will hold our November meeting on the 22nd instead of the 15th due to the Farm Bureau Convention.

Bill McCormack and Anna and Angelo Trapani attended the Vegetable meeting.

Gary DeFelice informed us that we need six memberships to meet our quota, but this number could change due to this year's 'Anniversary Date Renewal' system being implemented by Farm Bureau.

Bill Carney moved to adjourn. Seconded by Jim Wikoff, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Bruins