

**Holland Township
Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting**
Thursday, July 6, 2017
Holland Township Municipal Building
6:30 p.m.
Minutes

Meeting called to order at: 6:32 p.m.

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act, by the Twp. Clerk on November 12, 2015.

Agricultural Committee Member	Present
Larry LaFevre (Chairperson)	X
Dan Bush (Township Committee)	x
John Bonham	x
Christine Frenchu, Consultant	X
Edith Kozak	EX
Susan Dufek	X
Laura Wilson	X
Kyle Young (Alt #1)	X
Ron Lozowski (Alt #2)	X
Heather Sorge (Secretary)	X

***Darlene Green and Maria Elena were also in attendance.**

I. Minutes

May minutes were approved as submitted. Moved by John Bonham. Seconded by Ron Lozowski.

II. Farmland Preservation Applications:

- A. Brown: Surveys are updated per new Elizabethtown Gas easements but still questions regarding the descriptions for Block 14. Looking to close hopefully by the 30th.
- B. Slate Farm (B24 L6, 65.88 ac): CADB rejected due to percent of tillable land. Scheduling another meeting with the Slates.
- C. Cernecaro (B17 L19, 104.08ac): CADB approved application as is including the two severable exception areas.

III. Other Land Preservation:

Silva Farm: B10 L43 (97.25ac) and B14 L20 (32.99ac): No update

IV. Other Business

Ag Website: Listing of Holland Farms has been updated.

V. Pipeline Update:

NJ Dep told Penn East their application was being administratively closed due to lack of sufficient data and denied a sixty-day extension.

Letter signed on by Mayor Dan Bush regarding PennEast Pipeline.

For the record, Holland Township's recent signing easement with Elizabethtown gas has nothing to do with the PennEast Pipeline.

VI. Farmland Preservation Plan Update/Highlands Council: Darlene Green

Darlene Green: \$15,000 to update farmland preservation. We can utilize a portion to update the plan and shift funds to other priorities.

1. What ag-related issues/concerns, if any, have arisen since the 2010 report?

The PennEast Pipeline is a concern, as are proliferation of solar fields, dumping, and wildlife.

2. Has the Township done any of the bullet points listed on page 70?

We have been actively involved with Rutgers, CADB, Hunterdon Land Trust. Additions include, Holland Township Farm Market held every Saturday in Holland Township, and Bobolink Farm has a farm store.

3. Does the vision statement on page 88 remain the same? Or does it need to be amended?

The vision statement is sound, but discussion was held about further emphasizing the value of contiguous soil within the mission statement.

4. Does the committee wish to update the target farms list through this Highlands grant? We are in year 7 of the 10 year plan and I'm assuming that the Township has been successful in preserving at least a few of the "target" farms.

Charts to be updated with information Larry provided. No farms need to be added.

5. Need for updated block/lot lines.

Larry provided block/lots that are farmland preserved showing lot lines for (Block 9 and Block 6 Hoffmann.)

Moving forward: Highlands approves scope, Holland Township approves scope, and Ag Committee approves scope.

VII. Public Comment: No Comments

Next Meetings: September 7th and October 5th at Holland Township Municipal Building 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather L. Sorge

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Agricultural Advisory Committee Secretary

