



Monmouth county Board of Agriculture Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2012

Call to order: 7:04

Invocation Bill Potter

Present -Scott Applegate, Pat Butch, Rieks Bruins, Robin Bruins, Marty Bullock, Ross Clayton, Patrick DePalma, Gary DeFelice, Tim Dey, Bob Freiberger, Tom Freiberger, Wickie Hom Debi Kauffman. Doug Kauffman, Nyna McKittrick, Hugh McKittrick, John Neyhart, Chuck Palmer, Bill Potter, Donna Puhalski, Hal Rifkin Bill Sciarappa, Rob Swanekamp, Angelo Trapani, Anna Trapani, Ed Wengryn, Jim Wikoff, Meg Whitehouse,

Guests- Adam Davino, Jim Etsch, Larry Katz

Secretary Report-Submitted by Debi Kauffman, motion to approve B. Potter 2nd D. Kauffman. Approved

Treasurer Report-Ross Clayton, motion to approve N. McKittrick, 2nd J. Wikoff. Approved

Correspondence-Rutgers- Please select a candidate for the 3 year Board of Managers position. Motion to select Pat Butch for the position was made by T. Freiberger, 2nd Angelo Trapani. Approved

New Jersey Green Industry membership request- Tabled until a representative can come in to speak to the board.

Farm Bureau – Request from Rich Niewenhouse for Board members to visit Senators and discuss current farm issues and priorities. Gary DeFelice will call for appointments with Senators, Beck, Kyrillos and Thompson.

Reports- Reports were provided in writing for Board members from the following:

Bill Walker & Tim Dey .

Bill Sciarappa-Rutgeres Cooperative Extension-Amp for Right-To Farm out for comments. Please express your concerns and comments before April 15th. Medical marijuana was ok'd by SADC on preserved farms, however distribution would not be allowed. Open Space Pace moving forward. Master Gardeners class started. Due to a mild winter there is increased concern about mosquito population in the county.

Hugh McKittrick – State Board of Agriculture- The Rutgers college budget is of great concern to the Board.

Ed Wengryn- Farm Bureau-Talk to legislators about why agriculture has different and unusual needs. Minimum wage bill being heard which would raise the minimum to \$8.50 an hour. Farm Bureau does not support this, because of the competition from surrounding state with a lower per hour rate. Concern for FFA and 4H regarding Federal Ag bill which would restrict children from working with animals.

Old Business- Visit from Dr. Larry Katz in response to the college and it's position on filling open extension positions and the budget process.

New Business- The Fair committee (Anna Trapani Chair) will meet in March to discuss the booth and tent layout at the Monmouth County Fair. We need to make sure that there is space for our booth, Gary's Tractor, Extension, FSA and the Master Gardeners display.

This is a link to the agenda of concerns for Dr. Katz.:

[Dr. Katz Agenda1.docx](#)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nyna McKittrick