



## Monmouth County Board of Agriculture Meeting Minutes May 17, 2011

Prior to the meeting a Solar Energy presentation was given by Sun Farm Network which the board sponsored in cooperation with NJ Farm Bureau. The 1 hour presentation was well attended by residents of Monmouth, Mercer and Middlesex counties. Discussion was based on the different programs for solar installations and how they could benefit each farm.

The executive Committee of the Monmouth County Board of Agriculture met on May 17, 2011, at the Agriculture Building in Freehold for the regular meeting. President Gary DeFelice opened the meeting with a flag salute at 8:00 pm. The following were present: Frank Allocco, Pat Butch, Martin Bullock, Robin Bruins, Ross Clayton, Gary DeFelice, Tim Dey , Patrick DePalma, J. David Holmes, Debi Kauffman, Doug Kauffman, Nyna McKittrick, Rich Obal, Bill Sciarappa, Angelo Trapani, Anna Trapani, Bill Walker, Ed Wengryn, Jim Wikoff. Guests: Debby Clayton, Ted Colligan, Angelo Di Gregorio, Vincent DeSimone, Rob Hoch, Denise Knapp. Jacquelyn Knapp, Jessica Musto, Ed Surgent, Charlie Whitehouse.

**Treasurer's Report:** Read by Board Treasurer Ross Clayton. Mr. DeFelice asked for an approval of the Treasurer's Report. 2010 IRS form 990-N was filed. A motion to approve was made by J. Wikoff. Approved

**March Minutes:** Submitted by Board Secretary Nyna McKittrick. Mr. DeFelice asked for an approval of the March meetings Minutes. A motion to approve was made by R. Bruins. Approved

## **Correspondences:**

NJ FFA- Thank you for the generous donation to the general fund. You are invited to attend the 82<sup>nd</sup> State FFA Convention held at Rutgers May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Horse Park of NJ- the Board of Trustees has dedicated The Jersey Fresh Three Day event to "Doc" (Stephen P. Dey) in his memory.

The Dey Family- Thank you for the donation to The Horse Park of NJ in memory of "Doc Dey".

Monmouth County Park System- letter from Fair Chair Rachel Cohen outlining The fair's agricultural displays.

### **Agents' Report:** Rich Obal reported the following:

There is still standing water in fields and the temperatures are below average. Rita Sylvestri retires from the office after 23 years. This is the last meeting Mr. Obal will attend as Agent before his retirement.

Bill Sciarappa-The low light levels have affected growth of plants, however they should return to normal soon. Discussion regarding the picnic date and details. Chinese delegation toured NJ vegetable and fruit production facilities. NJ State Convention and The Vegetable Growers convention will be combined in Atlantic City, held in the third week of January.

**NJDA-** Bill Walker-2000<sup>th</sup> Farm preserved in the state. The Tark farm in Salem County On Quaker Neck Road in Mannington Township. The former Princeton Nurseries tract of 1000 acres will be preserved as open space. The state Food Purchase Program (SFPP) distributed the final quarterly payments to emergency feeding stations including

the Foodbank of Monmouth County. Jersey Fresh program expanded to include products made from 100% NJ wood. FFA Spring Career Development Events (CDE) Included 200 students from the state, held at the Cook Campus at Rutgers. The Jersey fresh availability and forecast report is available at [www.state.nj/jerseyfresh/JFreport.pdf](http://www.state.nj/jerseyfresh/JFreport.pdf).

**NJ Farm Bureau-** Ed Wengryn – Budget hearings ongoing. Democrats may create their own budget to present to the Governor. 16 yr old drivers license bill still in discussions. Wilson Bill on farm markets. New bill on about wind on preserved farms. 1 windmill per 33 acres, exempt from municipal zoning, no size restrictions. A Question was posed- should there be different standards for preserved farms? Call FB with suggestions and thoughts. County coordinator for wildlife- Tom Freiberger. County membership renewals- Gary DeFelice. Garden tour of Trenton on June, 11. August 2nd is Ag day for the Trenton Thunder, 4H groups are encouraged to attend with projects for a meet and greet with the public. To get to the stadium take 195 to route 29N.

**USDA-** Tim Dey- Fewer meeting visits to decrease travel expenses in current budget. Newsletters will be less frequent as well, please use fax, mail and phone to maintain contact. DCP/Acre sign up continues through June 1. Non-insured Assistance Program ( NAP) deadline is August 1. Sure signups for 2009 crops continues open until July 29. County Committee Election- the LAA#3(includes Mercer County and part of western Monmouth) seat is up for election August 1 last day to file form (FSA 669A). Ballots will be mailed Nov. 4. Voting is open until Dec. 5.

**New Business-** The state 4-H Small Animal show is being held in Monmouth in September at the Horse Park of NJ. A request for sponsorship was received. A motion was made by R. Bruins to buy a sponsorship for \$200.00. Motion approved.

Congratulations to Charlie Whitehouse upon his graduation from Veterinarian School.

**Old Business-** The Millstone Advisory committee (Board members G. Asprocolas and P. Butch) will follow up with the NJDMV regarding removing Sunday prohibition of Ag equipment. **Farmers are exempt from Torch Certificates fees and non-life hazard inspections from Fire Departments.** The Freeholders denied the resolution to change the name of the Ag building in honor of Former Freeholder Ted Narozanick. A motion by J.D. Holmes was made to establish a plaque to be placed inside the Ag building in Mr. Narozanick's honor. Motion approved. July 19<sup>th</sup> Board picnic- After a lengthy discussion, a final motion was made to budget \$750.00 from the treasury towards the cost of the picnic and charge \$10.00 per person to attend.

Robin Bruins brought up the need for workman's compensation insurance for 501C3 corporations because the officers are considered employees.

A discussion regarding a budget for the Fair committee resulted in a motion by N. McKittrick to have an available budget up to \$1300.00 to purchase supplies. The motion was approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by D. Kauffman. The motion was approved.

