

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture
October 21, 2014 Minutes

In attendance: Claire Brown, Lorna Brown, Robin Bruins, Marty Bullock, Pat Butch, Billy Carney, Gary DeFelice, Denise Emmons, Gabby Grunstein, Mychal Mills, Randy Peck, Bill Sciarapa, Angelo and Anna Trapani, Ed Wengryn and Bill Walker

President Pat Butch opened the meeting at 7:35 PM. The minute of the September meeting were amended to add: " George Asprocoloas, Arthur Normand, Jereamy Piswishhee, Alyanne Proaatera, Renee Stillwell, and Steven Williams" to the attendance roster and the names of the three Monmouth Co. Ag Fairs "Freedom Fest State Fair, Monmouth County Fair, and the Open Space Pace."

Correspondence

Freedom Fest State Fair request for Ag Fair status
Thank you note from Ben Wainwright

Marty Bullock moved to accept the September minutes as amended. Randy Peck seconded the motion which carried.

The Treasurer reported a balance as of 10/21/14 of \$7831.74 in checking and \$6563.29 in the money market account. Farm Bureau will have the same program offered in 2015 that we enrolled in this year. By rolling the promissory note over for another year, we anticipate a \$600 earning. Our fiscal year runs from September 1st to August 31st. Our greatest income comes between mid - November and January. A discussion was held on our possible need to fundraise considering our annual budget. Robin Bruins moved to apply the interest earned on the promissory note to our regular account. Seconded by Marty Bullock, the motion passed. Marty Bullock, seconded by Anna Trapani, moved to roll over promissory note in 2015. The motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Young Farmers And Ranchers (delivered via email)

October 16 meeting at Ort Farm covered Marketing and Agritourism. The YFR received \$5000 from Farm Credit East. Grayson Asprocolas and Stuart Fuanca were approved in November as representatives to the Ag Convention.

NJ Department of Ag

See attachment for report.

FFA

Stuart Fuanca is the liaison for the FFA Association. Joining Stuart in Kentucky October 29 through the second of November, will be the AHS Ag Mechanics and Agribusiness teams. Clair Brown informed us that the Allentown FFA Chapter will be selling Citrus and Poinsettias.

4-H

145 people attended Awards Night, Sabrina Brown reported. 4-H is strengthening their relationship with the county park system.

Master Gardeners
No report

FSA
See attachment for report.

Family and Community Health Services
No report

Board of Managers
No report

USDA
See attachment for report.

Cooperative Extension
See attachment for report

NJ Board of Ag
We will meet tomorrow. Topics of discussion are the Open Space ballot, a letter to DEP on quicker responses to bear damage and our convention location. Outstanding Young Farmer applications are on line with January 15th as the due date.

Farm Bureau
Gestation crate issue passed in full assembly and is ready for the Governor. Continued support for the Humane Standards is necessary. Other topics of concern are Labor: Ag versus seasonal, record keeping, GMO labeling, regulations for schools to buy local first, and farm market regulation: ag versus Dept. of Health. Annual meeting is November 17 and 18th.

Farm Bureau Woman's Committee
Thank you for the \$250 donation.

Tri-county
Randy Peck reported that they will have an auction on Thursday, with Wednesday sales only for direct sales through November. We are up 20% over last year with approximately \$1 million in revenue. The delivery truck is on the road.

Old Business
Monmouth County has eight banners in support of the Open Space Vote.

New Business
Michael Mills spoke about the Farm to Plate donation program to get more healthy food to the community. They hope to decrease food waste, with tax incentives to help.

In an effort to streamline our meetings, Pat Butch suggested that reports and/or bullets be sent to Robin Bruins prior to our meeting so that she can email out to everyone in an effort to have meetings end by 9:30 PM.

The Annual dinner will be held at the American Hotel in Freehold, NJ either February 19th or March 5th or 11th.

Stakeholders Meeting was tentatively set for March 17, 2015 5:30 to 7:30 PM. 4-H will get back to us regarding this. Bill Sciarappa will get back to us regarding the department's availability.

Farmland Assessment Workshop may be held in January, February or March in Cape May, Monmouth and Sussex counties. A new form will be distributed. Proof of income will be needed.

Gary DeFelice moved to adjourn. Anna Trapani seconded the motion which occurred at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Bruins

For more information:

www.state.nj.us/agriculture

www.monmouth.njaes.rutgers.edu

www.fsa.usda.gov/nj