

Minutes of Meeting

Augusta Township Farmland Preservation Board

Date: March 9, 2017

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Augusta Township Hall

Members Present:

Sue Jantschak, Sylvia Taylor, Dale-Lin Mallonen, and Susan Burek

Members absent: Elizabeth Waffle, Heidi Graham, and Shane Lehto

Call to Order: 6:15 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: Chair Taylor called to attention recent e-mail and telephone discussions regarding an invitation to partner with the Ann Arbor Green Belt to apply for ALE and WRE Funding for matching farmland protection grants.

Review of the current mission plan/action statement revisions: It was moved by Mallonen and seconded by Jantschak to accept the current revisions as final and to forward them to the township board for approval. Passed

Discussion of Greenbelt partnership: The board discussed the invitation from the Ann Arbor Greenbelt to partner in a pre-grant proposal to the Federal Agencies ALE & WRE for a 5 year program seeking federally subsidized Farmland Protection Easements and Wetland Reserve Easements.

It was moved by Burek and seconded by Mallonen to forward the matter to the Township Board with our recommendation that the Township send a letter of interest to: Ruth Thornton, Ann Arbor Greenbelt Program Manager, The Conservation Fund, 301 East Huron St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Passed

Supervisor Brian Shelby, present for the meeting, expressed his approval of the opportunity. The first available meeting of the Township Board will be Monday, March 27, 2017 as this coming Monday's agenda is already set.

Chair Taylor reported that Ruth Thornton had said she would be pleased to answer questions for the Trustees at their regular meeting. Deadline for pre-proposal grant submissions is April 21.

Other items from members: Mallonen suggested we continue to offer support for those interested in forming a Farmer's Market. Bruce Npton, of Wasem Fruit Farm, also present at meeting, offered some important considerations for a successful market operation.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

