

## Farmland Preservation Board Meeting Minutes Aug. 9, 2018

Members present: Sylvia Taylor, Sue Jantschak, Wes Mallonen, Elizabeth Waffle & Susan Burek

Members Absent: Shane Lehto & Heidi Graham

Call to order: 6:05

Dale-Lin Mallonen volunteers to take minutes for this meeting & is accepted by the board. Sue Jantschak moved to approve the June 14, 2018 minutes Liz waffle seconded. All in favor.

Public comment: Dale-Lin discusses staying at the posted FPB meeting 7/12/18 time (6:00 – 7:30 to provide information about The Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program and benefits discussed in the tax notice/ summer tax bill filler for Augusta Township landowners, should a resident decide to attend our meeting. No one came, used time to study application & map available in conference room. I brought up Wesley Mallonen & I helping with the new landscaping & the Contributions made by Dean Sell (Farms) for landscaping in front of the Mobile started by Brian Shelby & to finish plantings on the east side of the Ramp. Dean is willing to contribute further next year. Meeting recessed to observe & discuss results after the FPC was asked by the BOT to assist. In conclusion, looks better, making progress.

Additional items: Liz waffle, re: additional benefits

Monarch Butterfly land benefit possibilities brought up by Liz Waffle from previously authorized programs. There might be money available from USDA soil conservation grants.

Update discussion of availability of Farmland easement applications. Dale-Lin Mallonen requested forms & was told they were not available & were missing from their former location. Situation resolved with Heather as they were available & other staff members did not know the location. Susan Burek is to discuss with staff. They should now be available in main office & meeting room. Sylvia Taylor said that she had been informed that an application (Seltzer) was turned in, she had been working with the applicant, but there was not an established method to get the information to Augusta's FPC. Susan Burek will discuss this with office staff. Discussion of Easements occurred. Heather will be informed of a distribution system for FPC applications. Susan will send us an email on result.

The county has the equipment to maintain Easements. Sylvia Taylor brought up that the Washtenaw County Planning Commission has been dissolved and the County Parks & Rec Dept. has taken over their responsibilities. Washtenaw Co. makes recommendations. The actual acquisition is a shared government responsibility. Our committee is responsible for research of the property to judge whether it meets our criteria. For the September meeting (which Sue Jantschak will not be able to attend – on medical hiatus), we should bring a work sheet for property applications to adopt a standard using the existing model & adopting it to Augusta. FPC members would receive application, form & have a

chance to judge the property before attending a working meeting (non-public) for recommendations to be presented to the next public FPC meeting. This is a September (9/9) discussion topic.

DISCUSSION OF 8/26 Car Show: No information available from Car Show committee about their needs. No members available to facilitate participation. Sylvia Taylor asked if they had a table for presentation of Augusta Township information where our brochures could be set out. Discussion occurred about getting more pamphlets available. Suggestion made to approach township if they can be used. I mentioned that they might be included in a goodie bag if there is not a table. Sylvia reminded us that we need to organize for outreach to areas suitable for open land preservation benefits (to be discussed with our survey worksheet?). Sylvia Taylor will be attending the next County meeting on Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>.

Motion made by Sue Jantschak to adjourn at 7:34. All in favor.

Submitted by Dale-Lin Mallonen