

**Minutes Hope Township
Agricultural Advisory Committee
Wednesday June 3, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by Chairman, Bob May.

Open Public Meetings Act:

Under the provisions of the “Open Public Meetings Act” adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing notice in the legal section of the Express Times and by posting notice in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards—all by June 3, 2015.

Present at this meeting were members: Bob May, Richard Goodbody and Sandy Urgo of the Land Conservancy of New Jersey.

- The minutes from the last meeting, April 1, 2015 were approved.

Old Business:

- Ms Urgo confirmed the application for preservation of the 172 acre property owned by Campbell Foundry. The application had been submitted to the SADC, but as yet no “green light” given to proceed with the next phase of the process—obtaining two appraisals on the property.
- The funds for this preservation effort will be provided by the Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) funded by the State of New Jersey and Hope Township’s Farmland Preservation Trust Fund.
- The Land Conservancy of New Jersey will supervise the appraisers and guide the Township through the preservation process. To that end, Ms Urgo will contact the Township Clerk to establish communication channels as the Township will have to authorize the two appraisals for the property, survey, etc., in order to move forward.
- A motion was made by Mr. May, and seconded by Mr. Goodbody, to recommend the Township Committee authorize the two appraisals for the property, as soon as the SADC gives its “green light” permission to proceed.

Correspondence:

- None.

Update on Farmland Preservation Efforts:

- Ms. Urgo told of her efforts to contact various farm owners in Hope, and she and the committee spent some time going over a number of these potential properties.
- Farmland Preservation signs were again spoken of with the thought that the SADC would now, with the improved climate, complete requested installation.
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New Business:

- As the annual contract with the Land Conservancy of New Jersey will soon expire the Agricultural Committee made a recommendation to the Township Committee to renew Hope’s contract with the Conservancy.

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Goodbody, Secretary

