

Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2014

Kent/MSU Extension

11:30 A.M.

Members Present: Dennis Heffron (Ag Interest), Russ Slater (Ag Interest) and Michele Van Houten (Conservation Interest), Ed Robinette (Township Interest), Suzie Reinbold (Real Estate Interest), and Carl Blough (Ag Interest)

Members Absent: Candace Chivis (County Commissioner),

Staff Present: Stacy Byers (Board Coordinator), Kevin Travis (Administrator's Office), Christian Smith (Ag Preservation Assistant)

Public Present: None

Meeting began at 11:37

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order- Chair Heffron called the meeting to order at 11:37 a.m.**
- 2. Public Comment – No public comment**
- 3. Review Agenda and Declaration of Any Possible Conflict – None was heard**
- 4. Review and Adoption of August 6, 2014 Minutes**
Meeting minutes were reviewed by members present. **Motion by Reinbold and seconded by Robinette to adopt August 6, 2014 minutes. Motion passed.**
- 5. Old Business**
 - a. 2014 FRPP applications- update
The Hall and Poulias properties were submitted to FRPP in March. Byers reported that she received formal notice from the Federal Program that they will be providing matching funds for the Poulias Farm. The coordinator shared that the Hall property would not receive matching funds for 2014 due to lack of funding. Byers said she spoke with several other County Coordinators that only received funding for one farm as well. She will be working with the Administrators office to gain necessary signatures on the Statement of Work, and will submit it back to the Federal Coordinator. The deadline for an executed agreement is September 30, 2014.
 - b. 2013 FRPP Status- Frost and Vanoeffelen
Frost has closed but there is no update on Vanoeffelen.
 - i. Event update- press release. Byers is still waiting for the freelance writer to get the story to her. She will put it out on the AP wire when she receives it. It should be out by September or October. The intent of the

article is to show the success of the preservation program and to get information on the family to the public.

c. 2014 Application Cycle- update

- i. Score and Rank of properties. The Whittenbach and Momber applications were received. Scores were reviewed for all applications. Byers will be submitting a grant proposal to the Wege Foundation for funding of the Roth and Whittenbach properties.

d. LCVEF update - The next tour will be October 3 and November 14, 2014. It is a critical opportunity to educate decision makers and commissioners, and we hope to have 30 or more attendees. Byers encouraged Board members to contact their commissioners and personally invite them to the Tour.

6. New Business

7. Other

8. Public Comment

9. Adjournment Next Meeting September 3, 2014 at 11:30 A.M. Heffron adjourned meeting at 12:30 pm.