

**MEETING MINUTES  
EAST AMWELL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 19, 2018; EAST AMWELL MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 1070 ROUTE 202, RINGOES, NJ**

**CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

The meeting of the East Amwell Agricultural Advisory Committee began at 7:30PM. Notice of this meeting was filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the agenda was posted on the municipal bulletin board.

**2018 ATTENDANCE**

Agricultural Advisory Committee Member	1/15/18	2/19/18	3/22/18	4/16/18	5/21/18	6/18/18	7/16/18	8/20/18	9/17/18	10/15/18	11/19/18	12/17/18
<b>Kit Crisafulli</b>	X	X										
<b>Ann DelCampo</b>	X											
<b>Rob Garrett</b>	X	X										
<b>John Pehinys</b>												
<b>Candice Wiggum</b>	X	X										

*Others present: Sharon Brighthaupt as recording secretary & David Wang-Iverson TC Liaison*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

Candice Wiggum made a motion to open to the public and noted no public was currently present. Kit Crisafulli seconded. Candice Wiggum made a motion to close to the public and Kit Crisafulli seconded. All in favor.

**PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes from the January 15, 2018 meeting were presented. Candice Wiggum made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Kit Crisafulli seconded. All in favor.

**DEER MANAGEMENT**

Candice Wiggum suggested it would be good to send a communication to township residents to inform them of the deer management progress. The group agreed to prepare an insert to be included with the tax bills. The secretary will communicate with the tax collector to find out the date they will need the notices.

There will be a deer drive in the Cider Mill Road area to get them onto the property where they can be controlled. All those involved in the drive will need to be on the depredation permit. There will also be a deer count in March, but we don't know the exact date yet since it depends on weather and the Hopewell count dates. It will be advertised and notification will be provided to township officials, residents and the police.

Candice Wiggum mentioned registration for the Deer Management Symposium is still open.

**OLD BUSINESS UPDATE**

**REPORT ON AGRICULTURE IN THE TOWNSHIP**

Rob Garrett suggested that committee members volunteer to take a chapter from the 2009 report and update the tables, maps and other information. The updated report could be used to identify trends in agriculture in East Amwell and Hunterdon County, which might be useful to the planning commission and township committee. It

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may also be useful for future land use planning to evaluate the state of natural resources and in addressing concerns about water conditions, well testing and septic system education. It would provide information when needed for state officials and may even be used to attract future farmers to the area. Several tables and maps may not need to be updated since the information would not have changed.

Since the last questionnaire was so successful, at a later date the committee would like to send out another survey to gather the opinions, needs and wants of the farmers.

Rob Garrett will do chapter one in the report. Candice Wiggum will do chapter two. The document has notations indicating where the data was obtained, so it should be possible to gather the new data. Rob Garrett suggested we approach Banish Architects to request a quote for updating the document, if the data is provided to them. Some of the information may have already been gathered and updated by FOSPC. Before spending money this will be checked out, in case updated information is already available for use.

Kit Crisafulli noted housing developments in the surrounding towns are expanding and taking up more and more land currently being farmed. He mentioned an app that is available where you can find out the boundary lines of properties and additional valuable information. He will find out more about it and pass it along to the other committee members.

Rob Garrett mentioned he will be out of town on the date of the next scheduled meeting. The committee decided to move the meeting to March 22, 2018 in order to ensure a quorum will be possible. The secretary will make the proper notifications.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No new announcements at this time.

**PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

No public present at this time. Motions were heard from Candice Wiggum to open and close to the public, seconded by Rob Garrett and all in favor.

At this time Kit Crisafulli made a motion to adjourn seconded by Rob Garrett. All in favor.  
The meeting ended at approximately 9:00PM. The next meeting will be March 22, 2018 at 7:30PM

/s/ Sharon L. Brighthaupt

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Sharon L. Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary