

**MEETING MINUTES
EAST AMWELL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MAY 20, 2019; 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 7:30 p.m. Notice of this meeting was published in the January 24, 2019, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, with an agenda filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the agenda posted on the municipal bulletin board.

2019 ATTENDANCE

Agricultural Advisory Committee Member	1/18/19	2/18/19	3/18/19	4/15/19	5/20/19	6/17/19	7/15/19	8/19/19	9/16/19	10/21/19	11/18/19	12/16/19		
Kit Crisafulli	Cancelled	X	Cancelled	Cancelled	X									
Ann del Campo		X			X									
John Perehinys														
Michael Mills		X			X									

Others present: Sharon Brighthaupt as recording secretary

CALL TO ORDER

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

Noting no public present Ann del Campo made a motion to open and close to the public. Kit Crisafulli seconded, all in favor.

PRESENTATION OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2019 MINUTES

Ann del Campo asked if there are any changes or exceptions to the minutes. She made a motion the minutes be accepted as presented. Seconded by Kit Crisafulli. None being heard, minutes were approved as presented. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Ann del Campo brought copies of the Mission Statement for the AG Advisory Committee. In the Mission Statement it mentions the committee will support both the Township Committee agriculturally and FOSPC. It has been suggested and we are being encouraged to work jointly. The committee discussed possible meeting nights that could work. Kit is not available the second Monday on the month, or any Tuesday. Quarterly he is unavailable the second and third Wednesday and Thursday (March, June, September, December).

Michael Mills is generally available with the exception of a vacation trip on occasion and Ann del Campo is not available on any Friday.

Ann del Campo will pass this information back to Katherine Fullerton.

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GOALS FOR THE COMMITTEE FOR 2019

- Movie Night – Perhaps the Sourland Mountain
 - To take place during the meeting (winter months)
- Each member should attend a meeting of the of the HCADB or the SADC
 - Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- Ann del Campo recently reached out to a few farmers in East Amwell
 - Conducted interviews to gather email and phone numbers
 - Make contact with farmers to open lines of communication
 - She will contact Candice Wiggum to see if she still has the contact information gathered from the questionnaire sent last year
- Ann del Campo suggested an information board should be placed here in the municipal building
 - Kit Crisafulli said the farmers come here usually once a year during tax assessment
 - If we have not missed the window of opportunity to have something stuffed in with the tax bills, a one paragraph informational communications would be a good way to gather email addresses and ask for suggestions or notify about the upcoming movie night. The committee will work on getting it ready so when the township is ready to send out the bills, the message will be ready.
 - Michael Mills will write a paragraph and send to the other committee members for review
- After a mailing list has been developed, we will talk further about what informational announcements should be communicated.
- Michael Mills would like to make contact with the local school to suggest a school garden.
 - He could help them with obtaining grants
 - Designing a garden
 - Farm to school communications and activities

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Mills will begin to develop an outline to be used as a guideline for new farmers coming into the community for applying for and gaining approvals for their right to farm

Rick Wolfe asked for the committee to weigh in on the reclassification of certain rivers for C1 (buffers) that may have an impact on some properties in the Amwell Valley

Speaking as farmers in the community Kit Crisafulli and Ann del Campo feel strongly they and most of the other farmers in the community are already ensuring buffers are in place on their properties. Chemicals and pesticides along with road brine in the winter are causing more problems to the environment than any of the farmers in the area. Ann del Campo made a motion the AG Advisory Committee support East Amwell Township in not reclassifying additional waters into C1 waterways in the township. Kit Crisafulli seconded. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sierra Club

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No public present. Kit Crisafulli made a motion to both open and close to the public, seconded by Michael Mills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Kit Crisafulli, seconded by Michael Mills, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2019 at 7:30 PM.

/s/ Sharon L. Brighthaupt

Sharon L. Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary