

**EAST AMWELL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 20, 2022
EAST AMWELL MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 1070 ROUTE 202, RINGOES, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE & STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The meeting of the East Amwell Agricultural Advisory Committee began at 7:02 p.m. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was published in the March 3, 2022 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. A copy of this agenda was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, posted on the bulletin board and township website.

ATTENDANCE – ROLL CALL

2022 ATTENDANCE

Agricultural Advisory Committee Member	1/19/2022	2/16/2022	3/16/2022	4/20/2022	5/18/2022	6/15/2022	7/20/2022	8/17/2022	9/21/2022	10/19/2022	11/16/2022	12/21/2022	
Kit Crisafulli	Rescheduled – no quorum	X	X	X	No Meeting Scheduled	No Meeting Scheduled	X						
Ann del Campo (resigned 2/16/22)													
Bill duFosse		X	X	X									
Michael Mills		X	X	X									
Christian Mirabito				X									
John Perehyns		X	X	X									
John Mills (TC Liaison)		X	X	X									
Amy Jo Merz, Secretary		AM	AM	AM						A			

AGENDA REVIEW

There were no items to add to the agenda.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

April 20, 2022 Minutes

A motion made by Christian Mirabito, seconded by Bill duFosse to approve the April minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A motion made by Bill duFosse, seconded by Christian Mirabito to open the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote. Seeing no members of the public present, a motion made by Christian Mirabito, seconded by Bill duFosse to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

REPORTS

There were no new updates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Deer Management

Chair Crisafulli reached out to people in the area and had a very hard time trying to coordinate clubs/hunters that would be interested in and available to use the trailer for the HHH program this season. Chair Crisafulli said maybe this is something that we can do next year so they have more time to coordinate with everyone and get a good amount of people interested. It would also help if more people were to acquire depredation permits this winter. Chair Crisafulli mentioned that maybe something could be arranged for August if they could coordinate quickly with interested hunters that are available.

2. Master Plan Discussion (land use plan element)

Chair Crisafulli stated there was very little brought up during the July Planning Board meeting about the master plan because the senior housing project was being discussed. He mentioned that Tamara Lee is currently working on the part of the plan which involves landowners who aren't farmers. Also, the hearing for the Village master plan will be held at the August 10th Planning Board meeting; Chair Crisafulli said it would be good for members to sit in on that meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A motion made by Christian Mirabito, seconded by Bill duFosse to open the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Janice Pellegrino & Christy Pellegrino, 165 Cider Mill Road, Ringoes, NJ – Ms. Pellegrino stated that they are trying to start up a small horse farm with breeding and training that eventually will also have a house there. Ms. Pellegrino stated they put up a barn and a retention basin and are also putting an indoor barn. Soil conservation wants them to put two more detention basins in because of the indoor barn. Bayer-Risse is the engineering company that they are using. There has not been any response from the Township engineer but Soil Conservation will not approve anything until it has been inspected by the Township engineer. They are unable to continue developing this property because of all the issues and road blocks. They are also frustrated because they have been told by various people that the surveys are off by 3-5 feet. They are

concerned about all the retention basins that are being requested of them because it's taking good pasture space/growth fields away. They are looking for help and advice on what can be done at this point. The concern is that they are being taken advantage of because they are new and progress is being stopped for reasons they cannot figure out.

Chair Crisafulli stated he can reach out to people and see if they can get contacts who can help them. Chair Crisafulli said there are also programs available to offset expenses for water management via NRCS.

A motion made by Christian Mirabito, seconded by Bill duFosse to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion made by Bill duFosse, seconded by Christian Mirabito to adjourn the meeting at 7:34pm was unanimously approved by voice vote.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Jo Merz
Secretary, Agricultural Advisory Committee