

**TAMARA LEE**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

To: East Amwell Township Committee                      From: Tamara Lee  
East Amwell Planning Board

Re: Farm Project – Dec. Status Report                      Date: December 2, 2020

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The following is an update on the Township's 'Farm Project':

On-line meeting with the American Farmland Trust scheduled for 12/9 to review options for implementing the Farm Project. Conversation is on-going

Still working with Delaware Township to research re-purposing of under-utilized farm buildings

Developed a 'Help List' to share with residents who express an interest in working on the Farm Project. See attached.

Continued public outreach – Jamie Bowers and Brian Skrowronek/Amwell Valley Hounds

Jamie Bowers, a resident on Back Brook Road, expressed interest in helping study the pros and cons of 'hoop houses' and also the possibilities and options for developing a 'destination marketing' program for the Township

Continue building an email directory of farmers' email addresses. Plan to expand outreach through emails. Hoping emails will be more effective than virtual and in-person meetings and telephone outreach has been so far. The outreach has been good thus far but could be better.

Continue working with Hunterdon County GIS on the farmstand mapping

Coordinating with Elena Gable and Mike Mills to prepare and deliver presentations at a Special Joint Meeting of the Township Committee and Planning Board on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to discuss the results of Phase I of the Farm Project.

Of course, we'll keep you posted.

Cc: Elena Gabel, PP, AICP  
Mike Mills  
Katherine Fullerton, PP, AICP

- Ag Advisory Committee members
- FOSPC members
- Ringoes Advisory Committee

Marc Saluk and Mary Evers, Hunterdon County Economic Development Office  
Jamie Bowers

Status Report.12-220

## Farm Project Help List

*\* With a little friendly cooperation, more than one person may work on any task.*

1. Conduct outreach
2. Communications, public messaging
3. Identify agritourism possibilities
4. Research the cannabis issue
5. Research vineyards, distillery and brewery regulations
6. Study of hoop houses – types, for which products, pros/cons (*Jamie Bowers*)
7. Design local agricultural events
8. Research existing and potential sites for horse trails
9. Develop marketing and promotion plans (*Jamie Bowers*)
  - Destination marketing
  - Promote benefits of local farming
10. Operate and update farm stand and have/need map
11. Develop a mentoring program
  - For new farmers
  - For young people
12. Research the logistics of establishing a farmers' market with resource center
13. IT help
  - The farm inventory
  - Social media messaging
  - Directory of farm owners, farmers, farm services, farm equipment owners
14. Identify effective deer control methods
15. Research financial grant programs/options
16. Develop a program for sustainable/conservation farming – no-till farming, cover crops
17. Zoning/Re-Exam (PB & others)
18. Develop options for under-utilized farm buildings (PB & others)