

Honey Brook Land Preservation Committee Approved Minutes Tuesday April 17, 2018 7:00 PM

Meeting rescheduled from March 20 due to snow

Attendees: Shane Hadden (Chair), Chip Jones (Vice Chair), Sue Lacy (Member), Mike Zook (Member), John Stoltzfus (Member), David McElhenny (Alt Member).

Additional Attendees: John Goodall (Brandywine Conservancy), Rob Daniels (Brandywine Conservancy)

1. Review and approve January 23, 2018 Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

Motion to Approve: Chip Jones

Second: Sue Lacy

In favor: All

2. Applications

- hoping to close on a 53.18 ac farm at Pleasant View and Supplee in the next 4 weeks
- 75 ac on Pleasant View Rd applying this year
- 10 ac place on Reservoir Rd interested, but not adjacent so will not qualify for most programs, could be eligible if the large neighboring farm were under conservation
- 15 acre farm on Beaver Dam Rd was applying but on hold now due to landowner's construction project

3. New Business

- 26 ac Farm on Talbotville Rd – Approved for preservation in this year at all levels. Landowner brought questions about valuation and appraisal to the committee. Due to state regulations, valuation is coming in an additional 10% lower than the appraised value due to the ratio of forest to field, and landowner had previously agreed to a 10% donation of easement value. Landowner is considering dropping the application and reapplying again in 2019 with different terms or perhaps change the nature of the parcel (clearing trees) which the regulation seems to encourage, as a total loss of 20% is beyond what they were willing to accept. The committee sees value in the forested land and finds that its preservation aligns with the goals of the program, which go beyond agricultural preservation and include natural resources such as forest.
- Resolution for Supervisors: For the farm with parcels 22-4-42 and 22-4-56, pending agreement with the landowner, the committee recommends the township increase its contribution by 5% of the total appraised value (not to exceed \$20,000) to incentivize the landowner to close in this year.

Motion: J Stoltzfus

Second: S Lacy

In favor: All

4. Plan Update

Rob presented Chapters 1 and 2 of the updated plan, along with several graphs and tables illustrating the trends in EIT revenue, average cost to TWP residents, and a projection of cost and time required to protect all of the remaining priority lands.

5. Upcoming LPC meeting/event schedule:

Tuesday May 22, 2018 – meeting at 7:00PM ←*one week later than normal due to election*
Tuesday July 17, 2018 – meeting at 7:00PM
Tuesday September 18, 2018 – meeting at 7:00PM
Tuesday November 20, 2018 – meeting at 7:00PM
Tuesday January 15, 2019 – meeting 8:00AM, breakfast 9:00AM

6. Adjournment

Motion: Chip
Second: S Lacy
In favor: All