

Hopewell Valley Agricultural Advisory Committee

March 1, 2016
Board minutes

Present:

Lucia Huebner (chair), Anne Carcagno, Christopher Pazdan, George Sciarrotta, Mitchel Skolnick

John Hart (Township Committee liaison)

Robert Miller (Administrative Officer),

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM

The February minutes were edited and approved.

Working Items

-Bob English was invited to discuss the establishment of a free and voluntary list of livestock ownership and possible volunteers to help deal with escaped farm animals.

Bob is going to design a spreadsheet with the necessary information and see if some data might be available at the farm assessment office. It was decided that a form might be circulated. It could be available in different offices in the township. It would go out under the aegis of the advisory committee.

-The over population of deer was discussed, no decision was taken.

-The committee was approached by D&R to use a PIG grant to defray the purchase cost of the Muscente property. It was voted down unanimously.

New business

-A resolution to recognize Local farmer Jess Niederer will be drafted within 2 weeks.

-The draft of the "lease of township owned land", was reviewed. Two points were discussed:

The length and complexity of the form.

The arbitrary and low first bid price.

There is an urgency to finalize the form as the planting season is upon us. It was also suggested that the lease encourage "new farmers". The committee will study the document and report to Bob via e-mail.

The Meeting went into closed session and adjourned at 9 PM