

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
FARMLAND PRESERVATION, INC
JUNE 25, 2019**

The regular meeting of Farmland Preservation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 in the Lower Makefield Township Municipal Building. Mr. Riblet called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Those Present

Farmland Preservation

**Doug Riblet
Dennis Steadman
Eric Yeager**

Others

**Bob Colavita
Stan Kandebo
Jim Kovalcik – BOWMA Rep
Dave Kimball – BOWMA Rep
*John Lewis-joined mtg. in
progress**

BOWMA DEER HUNTING REQUEST

Representatives from BOWMA requested permission to hunt on the Leedom Tract (Memorial Park). The Board discussed and will speak with Mr. McGowan and Mr. Sterling and report back their findings. BOWMA also stated the Township approached them about hunting on Makefield Brook. BOWMA officials stated they researched this parcel and feel they cannot safely hunt due to the proximity of homes. Mr. Blank and Mr. Steadman will contact Mr. Stewart and present BOWMA’s proposal about hunting Clearview and Makefield Brook on his leased land and report back their findings.

MINUTES

Minutes April 23, 2019 & May 28, 2019 not available for tonight’s meeting.

REVIEW OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL COMPILATION

This was tabled due to Mr. Bankoske absence.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Riblet asked the Board how they would like to handle the Vanguard account since the Fidelity account is now managed by a financial advisor. The Board decided to wait until all members are present to discuss.

Mr. Lewis suggested to create a target percentage investment for the Vanguard account with a quarterly re-balance. The Board decided to discuss when all members are present.

Mr. Riblet stated there is an outstanding check to Apex Fencing.

ACCESS TO FIDELITY ACCOUNTS

Mr. Riblet stated that he, along with Mr. Bankoske and Mr. Blank, have access to the Fidelity accounts. The account has been setup that only the Treasurer has the authority to make any necessary changes that may be needed.

LEASE RENEWALS

Mr. Steadman stated all leases expire at the end of this year, except for Mr. Colavita as he has already renewed his lease.

Mr. Steadman stated that, after several working sessions and discussions, the Board feels they have a draft of a standard lease which could be presented to the farmers, either in July or August. Mr. Blank and Mr. Steadman will meet one on one with each farmer to discuss their draft (lease) as there are minimal changes. Mr. Riblet asked if a red-lined version of the lease could be shown to the tenant and Mr. Steadman stated yes. Mr. Lewis asked if the new leases have been reviewed by the Township Solicitor and Mr. Steadman stated not as of tonight but would to have them reviewed.

REPORTS ON CONDITIONS OF BUFFERS

Mr. Riblet stated the buffers on both Farmview I and II have not been cleared.

Mr. Riblet stated the homeowner, located on Sunnyside lane (Farmview II), has bamboo that is aggressively moving onto Farmland's property. Mr. Riblet asked Mr. Yeager to contact Corcoran Landscaping about putting in a barrier on Farmland's property to help stop the bamboo from encroaching.

BAMBOO REMEDIATION ON STACKHOUSE AND MAKEFIELD BROOK

Mr. Yeager stated Corcoran Landscaping is waiting for the rain to stop so he can start clearing Stackhouse. Mr. Riblet suggested using barriers whenever bamboo is removed from Farmland's property to help prevent any neighbors who are not properly taking care of their own bamboo from encroaching back onto farmland property.

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FENCE REPLACEMENT ON STACKHOUSE (2027 Leedom Drive)

Mr. Riblet asked if Mr. Kandebo would like to speak on this topic. He stated that he had nothing to say and Farmland will be receiving a letter from his attorney. Mr. Riblet asked if he knew who cut the bottom portion of the fence, and Mr. Kandebo stated he cut the bottom so he could trim the weeds. Mr. Kandebo denied removing the entire fence at the corner property, and said he had no knowledge who did remove it and speculated that the gas line company did. Mr. Kandebo asked who maintains this area as the weeds are very high. Mr. Riblet stated Farmland complies with the requirements of the sub-division plans.

Mr. Kandebo stated there was no requirement that Farmland have a fence on their parcel next to his property. Mr. Kandebo also stated that Farmland is required to obtain three (3) bids for all work which they contract.

ACTION ITEMS

- Mr. Yeager will contact Corcoran Landscaping for an estimate on Farmview II.
- Mr. Steadman will email Mr. Bankoske with the contact name for the DRJTBC.
- Mr. Steadman will double check to see if the red-line for the lease renewals has been sent. If no feedback, he will send to the Township Solicitor.
- Mr. Steadman will follow up with Mr. Blank to see if he has contacted Mr. Stewart about BOWMA possibly hunting on his property. Mr. Riblet asked Mr. Lewis if the Township requested additional deer management on Makefield Brook. Mr. Lewis suggested to reference the May BOS minutes.
- Mr. Blank and Mr. Steadman will search the May BOS minutes and talk to Mr. Stewart before the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Steadman asked if any portion of the Grey Nun parcel could be farmed or purchased in the future? Mr. Lewis suggested they email Mr. Ferguson, Township Manger, with their questions. Mr. Steadman stated they will discuss this further before emailing.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Riblet, Treasurer