

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
FARMLAND PRESERVATION, INC  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017**

The regular meeting of Farmland Preservation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 in the Lower Makefield Township Municipal Building. Mr. Blank called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Those Present**

**Farmland Preservation**

**Mike Blank**

**Dan Bankoske**

**Ross Bruch**

**Eric Yeager**

**Others**

**Judi Reiss-BOS Liaison**

**Bob Colavita**

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Blank to approve minutes of August 22, 2017 as amended. Motion moved and approved by the board and carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Bankoske spoke on behalf of Mr. Riblet in his absence. Mr. Bankoske stated Farmlands account balance as of September 25, 2017, is \$782,819.54 with a total increase of \$97,505.64 since the beginning of the year.

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There is a total of \$92,540.00 in two of the bond funds, \$32,947.58 in the Vanguard Money Market fund, \$364.20 in the checking account at William Penn Bank. Mr. Riblet wanted noted, since there is almost \$33,000.00 in the Vanguard account, that he feels half of this money should be invested differently. Mr. Bankoske suggested they table this issue and discuss at next month's meeting when Mr. Riblet returns.

Mr. Bankoske stated that Mr. Riblet received the \$924.00 reimbursement check from the court settlement for the damaged sign on Dolington Road. The Township received the original payment which in turn was forwarded to Farmland.

#### **FOLLOW-UP ON MR. J HIRKO'S REQUEST FOR FENCING ON LONGSHORE**

Mr. Blank stated Mr. Hirko, a Lower Makefield Township resident, stopped into the August Farmland meeting asking the Board for permission to install a fence onto the property located adjacent to Longshore. Since this property is not farmed, the fencing would allow his two Nigerian Dwarf goats to graze on the poison ivy which is located on Farmland's property.

Mr. Blank stated Farmland Preservation would like to consider this proposal but are concerned since Mr. Hirko's homeowners' insurance alone would not be sufficient liability coverage. Mr. Bruch stated he will reach out and discuss the Board's concern with Mr. Fedorchak, Township Manager and report back. Ms. Reiss will also check with her brother, since he has used goats in the past for this purpose, to find out how long the area remains clear of the poison ivy and report back to the Board.

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**FOLLOW UP ON NEIGHBOR'S (1562 BROOKFIELD RD) INQUIRY RE: FARMVIEW I**

Farmland received an email from the neighbor at 1562 Brookfield Rd stating the buffer area was overgrown and needed to be mowed. Mr. Yeager reached out to Mr. Stewart asking if he could mow this area which he did. Mr. Stewart stated that because of the rainy weather, mowing had been a little more challenging this year. Mr. Yeager stated the neighbor is satisfied with the results of the mowing.

**TOWNSHIP CLARIFICATION OF BAMBOO ORDINANCE & FOLLOW-UP WITH NEIGHBORS**

This was tabled until next month's Board meeting as Mr. Riblet was absent.

**UPDATE ON PLANS FOR BAMBOO REMEDIATION (Kaplan, Makefield Brook and Stackhouse)**

Mr. Bankoske stated Farmland needs to wait until the crops have been harvested in the fall before anything can be done. Mr. Bankoske will continue to follow up with this issue and get quotes for the work.

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Mr. Blank stated they are still waiting on the clarification of the bamboo ordinance from the Township.

## **FENCING ON FARMVIEW II**

Mr. Blank stated fencing still needs to be installed on Farmview II along the backyards of several residences on Sunnyside Lane. Mr. Stewart handled the contouring with Mr. McGowan advising. A neighbor was there and was satisfied with the result of this project, as was the Board.

The next step is to clear the area as it is overgrown with poison ivy and brush before the fencing can be installed. Mr. Blank will have a landscape service re-quote for the clearing of brush and also stated he is hoping Apex fencing will honor their previous quote.

## **UNCLAIMED PROPERTY (CD)**

Mr. Bankoske stated Mr. Riblet said this is still pending as he has not received any updates.

## **MEMORIALS FOR DUANE “BUSTER” DOAN**

- Patterson Farm sign – Mr. Blank is still awaiting the arrival of the sign from Shaw Signs of Doylestown.
- Community Center plaque – Mr. Blank has made several attempts to contact the Historical Society with no success.

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## **COMMUNITY PRIDE DAY DEBRIEF**

Mr. Bankoske stated he felt the day went well and would like Farmland to participate in the future. It was noted the Board would like to add an educational aspect to next year's event by having handouts, maps, etc. at their table. They feel this could be very beneficial to both the community and Farmland.

Mr. Yeager spoke about the possibility of having a community garden on one of Farmlands properties. The Board discussed and Mr. Yeager is going to speak with Mr. Stewart about this idea and get back to the Board. Ms. Reiss will research the Townships Memorial Park program, which consists of garden plots, for residents during the spring, summer and fall seasons to make sure there are no conflicts.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Reiss provided an update of other preservation efforts throughout the Township.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Blank, President