

OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

- DATE: June 5, 2024
- PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, Conference Room C
- PRESENT: Chair Josh Hucul, Mike Bronkema, Lukas Hill, Kelly Goward, Nate Pyle, Allison Miedema, Paul Windemuller (virtual)
- ABSENT: Jasmine Kober (Ad Hoc Youth)
- STAFF: Becky Huttenga, Julie Lamer, Paul Sachs
- PUBLIC: Cliff Meeuwsen, Gary Boersen

CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM / INVOCATION

The Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board met on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. Chair Hucul called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. A quorum was present to do business. Pyle gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

- APB 24-16 Motion: Approve the agenda for the June 5, 2024
Moved by Miedema UNANIMOUS
- APB 24-17 Motion: Approve the minutes from the May 1, 2024 meeting.
Moved by Hill UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Meeuwsen, Gary Boersen

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2024 Farm Selection
- APB 24-18 Motion: To preserve the Lee Rillema property, 47 +/- acres in Blendon Township contingent on available funding.
Moved by Hill UNANIMOUS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Board reviewed the 2nd quarter Non-Endowed and Endowed fund

B. FARM UPDATES

Molyneux property was awarded ACEP funding then funding was rescinded. The County can and will appeal this decision. The Rasch appraisal came in at 917,000. The Board decided to get a 2nd appraisal. Huttenga will send an email update following receiving the 2nd appraisal. The Veldheer property has a practice in place so funded is confirmed with RCPP. Their appraisal went up slightly so we will ask RCPP for a small increase.

C. FUNDRAISING

1. Farms are the Tapas 2024! Lamer shared the latest flyer and encouraged Board members to invite guests to attend the event.
2. Culver's Share Night. Huttenga shared that the event will be taking place in Kent County. If the event is successful, Ottawa County will organize an event. The date is June 25, 5pm-8pm, with 8 locations in Kent County participating. Culvers donates 10% of the proceeds from the evening.

D. PRESERVATION SIGN SUGGESTION CHANGE ON PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Lamer shared a concern regarding the preservation sign not being installed in the time listed on the purchase agreement. The Board discussed options and decided to leave the suggested timeline on the purchase agreement.

E. SCORING CRITERIA WORK SESSION – CRITERION 2
FUTURE SUSTANABILITY DISCUSSION

Staff will use the updated scoring system and re-rank the last 2 years and compare how the new ranking may change the scores.

OLD BUSINESS

Lamer shared with the Board that staff will have a booth at the Farm to Zeel event in Zeeland on June 22 from 10am-3pm.

NEXT MEETING

August 7, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

APB 24-19 Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:33 a.m.
Moved by Miedema

UNANIMOUS