White Township NJ Farmland Preservation and Open Space Committee and Agriculture Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting

17 December 2019

Present: Jason Menegus, Bob Mackey, Dave Newhouse, Glen Smith, Nevitt Duveneck, and Beth Kabert

The meeting was called to order in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by Chairman Jason Menegus followed by the flag salute.

New Business: Henry Reiwerts of Fielder Real Estate, Hackettstown, NJ, presented to the committee as a representative for Apple Mountain Recreation. The golf course and properties (91aces of golf course, clubhouse, parking lot, etc.) are currently for sale. Discussion focused on potential and practical uses for the property and possible buyers. One nonprofit entity has expressed interest in the property.

PIG application status – Aaron Cela of The Land Conservancy of NJ is moving forward with the application. White Township has approximately \$700,000 available in matching funds.

Aaron Cela is also continuing to develop a landowner outreach letter.

PPL Property/Warehouse – Bob Mackey provided and update to the committee regarding the status of the Jaindl warehouse application. He also discussed the status White Township Master Plan revision.

Old Business: The Thompson Farm and Hoffmann LaRoche properties are both currently under contract for preservation. The Kimball Farm has received an appraisal.

Other matters deemed necessary by the committee: All present committee member agreed unanimously that the issue of open auctions rather than sealed bids for agricultural leases should be presented to the White Town Committee for consideration. This would aligned with the practices of other land managing agencies and further transparency.

Adoption of Minutes: The minutes of the 22 October 2019 meeting were distributed to all committee members. Mr. Menegus made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duveneck. In a voice vote 5 were in favor, Mr. Smith abstained.

Public Comments: None

Adjournment: In a motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. In a voice vote all were in favor.