

Solebury Farm Committee
October 29, 2024
Hybrid Meeting

Minutes

In attendance: Graham Phillips, Gary Manoff, Lars Crooks, Josh Perlsweig, Buz Teacher, Tim Luccaro, Hanna Howe (Supervisor Liaison), Terry Clemons (Solicitor) & Renee Scally (Administrator)

Absent: Lowie Comly, Kaitlin Farbotnik

I. Call to order

Graham Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

II. Approval of Minutes

Josh Perlsweig made a motion to approve the minutes, 2nd by Tim Luccaro, all in favor.

III. Announcements

- 2025 Meeting dates – every month on the last Tuesday of the month.
- 2 full members and one associate member terms expire December 2025. Need to let Renee know if want to extend by December 2, 2024

IV. Agricultural Ordinance Accessory Uses – update

Discussion of the ordinance corrections as per Mark Freed, solicitor, from the Zoom meeting on October 25, 2024.

Discussion about fire safety in the agricultural buildings, which might be used in special events. Terry Clemons suggests to talk to Mike (new building inspector as of 1/1/2025) and go over the ordinance to find out exactly what is needed for fire safety.

V. Farm Workers Housing Ordinance, part 1 (Residential Accessory Dwelling)

Tabled until next meeting

VI. Administrative Business

Tabled until next meeting

VII. Forum for Farmers/Landowners

Tabled until next meeting

VIII. Committee Member Comment

Josh Perlsweig via Kailin Farbotnik wanted the Farm Committee to know that some USDA slaughterhouses are shutting down, such as Nelos and Springfield. There are about 2-3 farms in the township that uses these slaughterhouses. Need to bring this to the attention of the Board of Supervisors, to our State Representative and State Senator.

IX. Public Comment

Stephen Phillips met with the zoning officer along with Brent Alderfer to talk about fire safety. The committee needs to be specific with fire safety.

If a resident only has 1-2 special events a year, they should not have to notify the township. He likes not having to get a zoning permit every time he has an event. Bonfires should also be included in the ordinance with fireworks. Stephen also suggests to add to the ordinance, access for emergency vehicles is required.

Brent Alderfer had a meeting with Zoning Officer. The zoning officer was fine with just giving the township notice (1-2 weeks prior to the special event) and giving a basic drawing and egress for special events. He also mentioned that not zoning permit would be needed. As for the building code, the township has the right to inspect, but the township does not know what's going on with the regards to special events. Brent thinks the building code is not part of the zoning code. He does not believe that the 50% of revenue, should be produced on the farm.

Sam Marlow suggests to use the word "adequate" for fire safety.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm by Graham Phillips, 2nd by Josh Perlsweig

Respectfully Submitted,
Renee Scally