

LAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 – 3:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Peck; Supervisors Barrett, A. Johnson, Sausville, Veitch and Yepsen; Jamie O'Neill, Jason Kemper, Planning; Press.

Chairman Peck called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Mr. Peck reviewed the applications submitted for the County Farmland and Open Space Grant program as follows:

1. Chuck Curtiss Jr., Willow Marsh Farm in the Town of Ballston, consisting of 134 acres.
2. Heckman Farm in the Town of Clifton Park, consisting of 66 acres.
3. Shirley Palmer Farm in the Town of Charlton, consisting of 26 acres.
4. William and Paul Galcik farm, consisting of 58 acres.
5. Crown Oil Company in the City of Saratoga Springs, which is an old gas station that the City of Saratoga Springs is looking to make into a park, consisting of .44 acres.
6. Dave Dennett, property owner looking to add .28 acres adjacent to the South Side recreation field in the City of Saratoga Springs.
7. Round Lake Preserve Farmland Protection Project – Phase Two, in the town of Stillwater, consisting of 78.67 acres. This project deals with the Sweeney Farm, where phase one was dealt with last year, when the town of Malta partnered with Saratoga Plan and the State as well. A small portion of the project is located in the Town of Malta.
8. Hanna Farmland Protection Project in the Town of Saratoga, consisting of 192.2 acres.
9. Stonecroft Farm Protection Project in the Town of Stillwater, consisting of 42 acres.
10. Zim Smith Trail and Mourning Kill Protection Project in the Town of Ballston, consisting of 61 acres.
11. Mourning Kill Nature Protection Project in the Town of Ballston, consisting of 15 acres.

Mr. Peck said the county budget is \$750,000. There are approximately \$1.8 million in requests. After a committee workshop going through each project in great detail, the following projects are being proposed:

1. Chuck Curtiss Jr. Willow Marsh Farm, consisting of 134 acres in the Town of Malta. This project was awarded funding from the State PDR program in 2007, looking for assistance with the local 25% match. The county portion of the total project costs would be \$176,000.
2. William and Paul Galcik property in the Town of Saratoga. Consisting of 58 acres at a county cost of \$347,400.
3. Heckman Farm in the town of Clifton Park. They had requested a larger portion as a PDR project, where the Town of Clifton Park would do the majority of the project. After a review of the application it was noted that this project was really an open space project and would be adjusted at a \$100,000 cap.
4. Round Lake Preserve Farmland Protection Project – Sweeney Phase two in the Town of Stillwater at a cost of \$126,600, with the understanding that the amount is less than they requested. The total request for the project was \$393,350.

A motion was made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Barrett to approve the above Farmland/Open Space Projects for 2008 as stated above. Unanimous.

Mr. Sausville said on the Heckman Farm application it wasn't apparent which part of the farm was to part of the purchased development, as part of it is deemed wetlands. A conclusion was drawn that there is more valuable upland that was on the PDR. He requested that the grant be clear that that part of the land is what would be purchased. He would also like to see a sunset clause included, given the fact that at this time there is no commitment from the Town of Clifton Park.

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Barrett the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom