

Meeting Notes
(Approved 17 July 2017)

Town of Greenville
Land Stewardship/AEA Committee

Monday, 5 June 2017 (5:00 pm)

Greenville Town Hall

Present: Larry Bentle, Dave Johnson, Tim Menning, Zen Miller, Steve Nagy, Pete Schroeder, and Dave Tebo.

1. Call to order. 5:05 pm.
2. Approval of 17 April 2017 meeting minutes. Draft minutes approved as written. (Motion made by Pete S.; 2nd Tim M.).
3. Community Ag education-status.
 - a. Donations from committee members enabled Larry to present a check for \$500 to Hannah Goulet, a Hortonville High senior, on Scholarship Night (3 May 2017). Hannah designed an AEA logo for our Greenville AEA and elegantly incorporated it into a Committee approved, road sign that can be erected by AEA participating landowners to promote our AEA to area travelers. Hannah will be attending St. Thomas University, St. Paul, MN this fall.
 - i. An article about the award to Hannah and an overview of our Greenville AEA was featured in the Summer Town of Greenville Newsletter (p. 6).
 - ii. The Appleton Post-Crescent also ran an article and photo on 20 June 2017 in the Business section, p. 1D. (**Attachment I**).
 - b. The HASD Polar Academy, an orientation for new teachers, will be held 14-18 August. It was requested of our Committee if Ag related tours might be made available for the participants during this period. Suggested tour locations were: Steinacker Farms (Jeff, et. al.), Homestead Meadows (Steve N.), various tours that Zen Miller can arrange and Greenville's Yellowstone Trail (Steve N. and John J.).
 - c. Initiated by communication between Steve, and Sally Bowers, Michele Johnson of the HASD has begun a program to raise pumpkins on a 2-acre plot that Steve prepared on his farm. Jim Beard (retired FVTC agriculture and horticulture instructor) will provide needed expertise. Michelle has recruited area students and their families to plant and care for the pumpkin garden over the summer.

- d. Michele and other teachers are also working to have students develop recipes using various vegetables, etc. that can be/are grown in area gardens. Chefs from several area restaurants will participate in the program to both help the students in recipe development and judge the food preparations made by the students. Student runners-up will participate in a final cook-off to be held at Homestead Meadows in early October 2017. This final cook-off is planned to be a media event. Pumpkins harvested from the pumpkin garden (3.c. above) will be on sale at this cook-off final. All proceeds from these programs will be donated to the "Trim Hunger" organization.

4. AEA signage.

- a. Order quantity. It had been decided to have the number of total AEA acres for each landowner printed on the sign by RJ Marx, our chosen sign vendor (see notes of 17 April 2017). This will provide the best UV protection and durability.
 - i. To proceed in this manner we must contact each relevant landowner to determine if they would be willing to erect a sign(s) on their property adjacent to a road.
 - ii. The Town has provided a list of all landowners with greater than 20 acres within the AEA. It will be used as a guide for making needed contacts.
 - iii. **Larry** will verify with RJ Marx if signs can be printed in more than one batch so we can contact a few landowners and begin erecting signs on their property as soon as reasonably possible and prior to obtaining permission from all willing participants.
- b. Funding options
 - i. Contact landowners that may be willing to pay for the signs for their property outright. The cost is ~\$100/sign and steel post together.
 - ii. Determine if DATCP has any funds that could be applied to purchase of signs. **Larry** will contact DATCP.
 - iii. Draft a proposal to the Town Board requesting funding in support of the sign program.
 - iv. Contact local Agribusinesses to determine if they would be willing to contribute.
- c. Schedule. Postponed until next meeting.

5. Goals; Greenville Land Stewardship/AEA. Eric Fowle provided a homework worksheet assignment with regard to suggested goals for our committee (**Attachment II**). He requested that **each committee member** fill in their suggestions for each of the goals and return to Eric by 23 June. With this input we can hopefully have a draft document to present at our next meeting.

6. Web site. The Town is in the process of a major revision of their web site. Once complete it is recommended that both the Land Stewardship Committee and AEA have independent address lines on the home page so that each can be addressed with less than 3 keystrokes. This will allow the Committee and AEA to have sections to post relative information. For the AEA this may be: latest news from DATCP regarding AEA programs/grants, photos of our AEA, information on available tax credits, etc. Revisit website topic at next meeting.
7. Other General News.
 - a. Zen distributed an informational flier regarding the annual “Breakfast on the Farm” to be held on Sunday, 11 June.
 - b. Larry distributed a handout showing the Protected Lands within the Town of Dunn, which is a township adjacent to the city of Madison. This handout (**Attachment III**) was part of our Purchase of Development (PDR) discussions during our 6 March 2017 meeting and was, by mistake, not handed out at that time. Of particular interest are the PDR Conservation Easements outlined in blue.
8. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 6:15. Motion by Pete, 2nd by Steve.

Parking lot for future meeting(s):

- a) TDR (Transfer of Development Rights).
- b) Purchase of Development Rights.
- c) AEA tax credits.