MINUTES
Bernards Township Agricultural Advisory Committee
Thursday, February 18 at 7:00 PM

Attendees:
Carol English
Mariellen Keefe
Tyson Mertz
Thomas Russo, Jr., TC Liaison/Voting Member
Catherine Sorge

BUSINESS:
- Annual reorganization: Carol English was appointed Chair of the Committee for 2016
- Review 2016 Activities
  - Public Farm Meeting will be held April 21, the agenda will be finalized at the March meeting, invitations will be sent out after the March meeting
  - Charter Day
    - Committee will host a booth and work with 4H to have representation. Participation by 4H in 2015 was a great success
    - Committee will work with the Township to develop a map of farm assessed properties and retail farms as well as others that want to be included
- Additional Activities related to Committee Responsibilities
  - Reviewed responsibilities, will bring ideas to the March meeting for outreach, education
  - Per the Committee’s responsibilities, the Committee must keep an inventory of farm assessed properties
    - Committee has a 2016 list of farm assessed properties obtained from the Tax Assessors Office per Nov mtg
    - Develop map of properties, also under Charter Day
    - Obtain acreage of assessed properties for inventory
- Meeting Dates for 2016
  - Jan 21 did not have a quorum, scheduled Feb meeting
  - Feb 18
  - Mar 17
  - Apr 21 (Farm Meeting)
  - Nov 17

INFORMATIONAL:
- Food Safety Modernization Act has been implemented, meetings are being held by Ag Extension to cover acts
- SADC continues to work on the soil disturbance legislation, did pass legislation on what activities are accepted on preserved farmland

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.