



**ACME TOWNSHIP  
FARMLAND & OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Thursday, July 24, 2008, 2:00 p.m.  
Acme Township Hall  
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

**Meeting called to Order at 2:15 p.m.**

**Members present:** B. Carstens, G. LaPointe, W. Kladder, Township Supervisor  
**Members excused:** B. Garvey (Chairman) (Joined by phone)  
**Staff present:** N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary  
**Also present:** B. Bourdages, Farmland Preservation

Carstens chaired the committee as Garvey was not physically present at the meeting.

**1. Limited Public Comment:** None

**2. Approval of Minutes from May 22, 2008, meeting:**

**Motion by Kladder. Seconded by Carstens to approve the meeting minutes from May 22, 2008, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. Review and Recommend the Agricultural Conservation Easement Document**

Bourdages said this Conservation Easement is intended to assure that the Property will be perpetually preserved in its predominately agricultural, scenic, natural and open space condition.

Committee members were given copies of the Agricultural Conservation Easement Document for review. The easement has been vetted by both the township and county's legal counsel and recommended by them for adoption. Bourdages led the group in a page by page review of the document with corrections and deletions being made. Bourdages will have his secretary make the corrections. Attorney, Scott Howard will review the document. Garvey was very impressed with the team of legal advisers that were involved in this process.

**MOTION BY LAPOINTE. SECONDED BY KLADDER TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADOPTION OF THE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DOCUMENT AFTER CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE AND ATTORNEY, SCOTT HOWARD HAS REVIEWED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**4. Review July Memo to Board from Bourdages**

Bourdages told the committee members that all four applicant landowners have executed "Letters to Proceed". This is indicating their desire to move forward in an effort to preserve all 816 acres currently under application.

Offers of additional land for preservation totaling approximately 310 acres have been received by the Conservancy.

The Conservancy continues working in earnest to look at additional private funding resources that could contribute to the program. Bourdages also said that the Conservancy is working to procure the consulting services of Mr. Pat O'Connell of Evergreen Capital Advisors out of Princeton, New Jersey. Mr. O'Connell is one of the country preeminent experts in the financing of Purchase of Development Rights. Pending final discussions, it looks promising for Mr. O'Connell to make a visit to the township near the end of August of this year.

**ADJOURNED AT 3:50 p.m.**