

Rural Revival Minutes – April 4, 2016

Members Present: Tim Eisenbeis, Loraine Ensz, Richard Ensz, Dennis Jurkovich, S. Roy Kaufman, John Koch, Todd Koerner, Dee Millar, Lyle Preheim, Glen Wollman. Guest: Adam McClary – Living Dirt Farm.

Minutes of the March 7, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. Approval moved by Dee Millar, second by Dennis Jurkovich & passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. No Report

Ag-Tourism/Education – John Koch reported that the preparations for Ag-tourism Programs for this summer are still in the works.

Schmeckfest – Rural Revival will again share a table with the community gardens. John Koch brought the display board used last year and it was decided that the information was generic enough that it could work for another year. Next year this display should probably be replaced. It was noted that two activities should be added to the list on the poster. Those are: the Pasture Walk and Cover Crop Walk.

Visioning – A continuation of idea-sharing and discussion as to the Mission/Purposes of Rural Revival ensued. The core question to be considered was what do believe Rural Revival is and should be. Details to be inserted in these Minutes will be provided by Tim Eisenbeis at a later time.

Guest – Adam McClary (Living Dirt Farm) introduced himself. Adam is a former Texas paramedic whose parents live in Parker. He has returned to South Dakota to raise lettuce and other greens. He has signed on as a member of the state's Food Hub efforts.

GMO Labeling – Lyle Preheim noted that federal GMO labeling regulations did not pass in the U. S. Congress. This is good in that the bill as structured would have limited the states rights to control such labeling.

First Fruit – Todd Koerner noted that this year's efforts are underway. Freeman Academy students (grades 1-4) have seedlings started and these efforts are now a part of their project-based learning program.

Land for Sale – It was noted that Eloise Schrag is leaving and components of her farm will soon be put on the market. RainMaker Red will be realtor.

Miscellaneous – The pipeline spill was noted and Dee Millar encouraged the group to view SDPB programs relating to Kids Seeds and composting.

Adjournment – Moved by Glen Wollman, seconded by Dee Millar and passed unanimously.