

**Millstone Township**  
**Agricultural Advisory Council**  
Meeting Minutes  
October 6, 2008

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

**Roll Call**

Present: Butch, Pinhas, Romano

Absent: Asprocolas, Halka

A motion was made by Ms. Butch to approve the September 8, 2008, minutes with a second offered by Mr. Romano and all in favor.

**Correspondence** - none

**Old Business**

➤ **Farm market**

- Pam D'Andrea provided a memo to Council members containing comments from the market manager and vendors which includes a request for more advertising on main thoroughfares to direct traffic to the market
- Ms. D'Andrea spoke with the West Windsor Community Farm Market Manager and provided the following comments and suggestions for next year's market:
  - Advertise using an overhead banner; the best colors are black lettering on a yellow background; sturdy banners can last 3 to 4 years and cost approximately \$500 each
  - Ms. D'Andrea will check into and take care of sign ordinance issues
  - Solicit sponsorships from local businesses, such as banks and realtors, for green bags
  - Develop a farm market logo; perhaps hold a contest for school children to come up with a logo
  - Baked goods are a big seller; Ms. D'Andrea has contacted the Elks regarding the use of their commercial kitchen and informed Council members that the Elks are willing to work with vendors
  - Need more vendors
  - Variety and presentation are key to a successful market
- Ms. Pinhas explained that there were two contributing factors to the recent decrease in activity at the market: the closure of the market on September 6<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather when the weather was not as bad as expected and the removal of the market signs throughout town

- Mr. Romano suggested inviting market vendors to the November meeting with the regular meeting session to begin at 7:00 PM and the vendor feedback session to take place at 7:30 PM
- Ms. Butch stated that she would speak with the Recreation Committee to see if it would be feasible to move the market indoors at Wagner Farm Park during inclement weather rather than closing the market

### **New Business**

#### ➤ **2009 Operating Budget items include:**

- Splitting the newsletter printing/postage expense with OSFP
- Advertising budget for the farm market to include signs, newspaper ads and school flyers
- Training budget for OEM and the farm market
- Display board
- Education budget to include the Ag Convention and Vegetable Grower's Convention
- Farm market manager expense; will need a fee ordinance to collect a table fee from vendors
- Need to understand 2009 Council goals to address additional budget needs

Upon completion of the farm market and operating budget discussion, Ms. D'Andea departed and the meeting returned to Old Business

### **Old Business**

#### ➤ **Manure Management**

- Ms. Valerie Palluzzi, owner and operator of A-Norton Waste Disposal, provided information to the Council regarding her company's manure removal services
  - Ms. Palluzzi is a member of the Horseman's Association of Millstone Township
  - A-Norton Waste Disposal is a small company that provides dumpster service to residents
  - The company is registered with the DEP and insured
  - Manure cannot be delivered to A-Norton
  - There are two available dumpster sizes: 10 yard and 20 yard
  - Pick-up occurs every few weeks to avoid rust of steel dumpsters
  - The manure is taken to a local farmer who recycles it into compost for topsoil
  - Ms. Palluzzi will e-mail a pdf file to the Secretary with contact and pricing information for posting to the Ag Council website
- The Secretary will have the old regulations that are currently on the Ag website removed and replaced with the new legislation
- Ms. Butch suggested posting an article on the new manure regulations in the next newsletter and perhaps hosting a seminar on the topic

➤ **OEM Large Animal Action Plan**

- Ms. Butch will set up a meeting with Mr. Romano, Ms. Romano, Ken Gann, and Ocean County OEM Director, Helen Ferraro
- Tentative dates for the meeting include Wednesday, October 15, and Tuesday, October 21
- Large Animal OEM Survey responses were reviewed; it was agreed that when a range is provided, the higher number will be used
- The Secretary will update farmland assessment information with the most recent forms on file with the Tax Assessor
- It may be difficult to acquire information for small properties with horses that are not farmland assessed
- When complete, the Large Animal OEM Plan will be a separate chapter in the OEM book
- The action plan will utilize a "response team" not a rescue team
- A variety of scenarios will need to be reviewed for response options and area requirements
- Area requirements will include location for emergency water and hay supplies and a location for veterinary assistance
- May need a supply of water purification pills, pools for water, buckets and portable stalls
- Will need an area to store portable stalls/pens and water buckets
- A mock disaster would be very expensive and would only be done when the plan is complete

➤ **Millstone Day Review**

- A total of \$660 was brought in between the bull ride and money booth
- The rental fee for the money booth was \$100
- Registration forms have been submitted for 2009 for the same location
- May need to rearrange setup of money booth to prevent congestion in walkway
- Farm market pictures on display were great
- The Ag Council will have their own display board next year

➤ **Monmouth County Planning Board Panhandle Region Plan**

- Profile information is being compiled from submitted surveys
- The next meeting will be held in December

At 9:13 PM a motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a second offered by Ms. Butch and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher