

**Millstone Township
Agricultural Advisory Council**

Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2009

Mr. Romano called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (6) Asprocolas, Butch, Halka, Peck, Pinhas, Romano

Absent: (0)

A motion was made by Mr. Asprocolas to approve the February 2, 2009, minutes with a second offered by Ms. Butch and all in favor.

Correspondence

- The Panhandle Region Plan Newsletter is available on the Township website at [://www.millstone.nj.us/Panhandle_Region_Plan_Newsletter1.pdf](http://www.millstone.nj.us/Panhandle_Region_Plan_Newsletter1.pdf)

Old Business

- **2009 NJ State Ag Convention Update**
 - Mr. Asprocolas attended the convention on February 10, 2009, and provided the following highlights:
 - Governor Corzine attended the convention and announced the appointment of Douglas Fisher as New Jersey's Secretary of Agriculture
 - Governor Corzine gave a pro open space and land preservation speech but did not comment on how it would be funded
 - Discussions regarding open space funding options included a possible water use fee; charging fees for non-metered water, such as wells, prompted questions
 - Mark Mauriello has replaced Lisa Jackson as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection; Mr. Mauriello spoke about implementation of the Permit Efficiency Review Task Force, which is making recommendations to streamline the DEP's permit review process and eliminate duplication between the DEP and EPA
 - Assemblyman Louis Greenwald spoke about Wildlife Management Areas, farm leases and the bidding process
 - Next year, the agenda will be reviewed in advance to determine if more than one Council member should attend the convention so that both the general session and seminars can be covered

New Business

- **Two new ordinances**
 - Ordinance No. 09-04 controls the use of motor vehicles on Township-owned property

- Ordinance No. 09-07 creates the vendor fee for the Millstone farmer's market
- **New Display Board**
 - The new board arrived and was used to display pictures from last year's farmers' market
- **Manure Management**
 - Mr. Romano has spoken with the attorneys and advertisements for manure vendors cannot be placed on the Township website or in the Township or the Open Space/Ag newsletters because they are distributed to all residents; the recommendation from Mr. Davison's office is to put a package together containing the new State animal waste legislation with options for removal and mail the package to identified Township farmers
 - Ms. Butch received a County mailing that contained recycling information and included manure removal information and vendors; Ms. Butch will bring the mailing to the next Council meeting; it may be possible to have approved vendors included in the County recycling publication
 - The new regulations have been adopted but there is a grace period prior to the enforcement of the regulations
 - Ms. Romano will provide dates for animal waste seminars for posting to the Council website
- **Large Animal OEM Plan**
 - Ms. Butch and Ms. Romano have been taking courses for certification; four courses are required prior to taking the hands-on training on April 24, 25 & 26
 - Ms. Butch and Ms. Romano will begin formulating a plan upon receiving certification
- **Farm Market Bylaws**
 - Mr. Asprocolas requested a change to the Farm Market By-laws under "Display" from "Produce may be sold by the count, bunch or in legally acceptable containers, but not by weight" to "Produce may be sold by the count, bunch, in legally acceptable containers or by weight if utilizing a scale that has been certified by the State of New Jersey, Division of Consumer Affairs, Office of Weights and Measures."

A motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a second offered by Mr. Asprocolas to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher