

Millstone Township
Agricultural Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2009

Ms. Pinhas called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (3) Butch, Halka, Pinhas

Absent: (3) Asprocolas, Peck, Romano

A motion was made by Ms. Butch to approve the August 3, 2009, minutes with a second offered by Mr. Halka and all in favor.

Correspondence: none.

Old Business

➤ **Farm Market Review**

- The Farm Market closed earlier than anticipated this year; the last day that the market was open was September 26th.
- Feedback from the market vendors indicated that sales throughout the season were lower than last year.
- The poor growing season affected the availability of seasonal produce such as pumpkins.
- Further discussion deferred to next month due to Mr. Asprocolas' absence.

➤ **Millstone Day Review**

- Ms. Butch explained that Millstone Day went very well and Miss New Jersey and Millstone resident, Ashley Shaffer, made a wonderful appearance; she graciously spoke with visitors of all ages and accommodated all who wanted to have pictures taken with her.
- In keeping with Miss Shaffer's platform, "A Health Weight, to Feel Great!", the Ag Council distributed apples which were donated by Asprocolas Acres farm.
- There will be an article in the fall issue of the Open Space & Ag Newsletter about Miss New Jersey's appearance.

➤ **Former Lee Property Lease Extension**

- Resolution 09-157, authorizing the lease extension, was adopted at the September 16th Township Committee meeting.
- The lease has been extended through June 30, 2010.

- **Sunday Hunting and Reduced Perimeter on Preserved Properties**
 - The Township Committee decided that hunting will not be permitted on Township-owned open space.
 - The Township has no means to safely monitor hunting; the parcels are relatively small and in close proximity to homes; there have been problems in the past with hunting on these parcels.
 - Hunting is permitted on County- and State-owned land; both the County and State have rangers to monitor hunting.
 - Hunting is not permitted on the former Lee property because Green Acres funded the purchase; Green Acres regulations state that hunting must be completely restricted or open to everyone.

New Business

- **14th Annual New Jersey Land Conservation Rally** will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2010, at the Montclair State University Conference Center.
- **Review roster to determine which terms expire in 2010**
 - Ms. Butch and Mr. Asprocolas have terms that expire on December 31, 2009; Ms. Butch agreed to remain on the Council for another term.
 - The Secretary will make a note on the attendance roster regarding the absence of active farmers from meetings during the height of growing season.
- **Budget for 2010**
 - The budget will be discussed at the November 2nd Council meeting.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Butch with a second offered by Mr. Halka to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher