

Millstone Township
Agricultural Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2009

Mr. Romano called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (5) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck, Pinhas, Romano

Absent: (1) Halka

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

Correspondence: None.

Old Business

➤ **Farm Market**

- Ms. Butch will contact the owner of the Red Wagon property to inquire about the site as a potential location for the community farm market.

➤ **Former Lee Property Lease Extension**

- Ms. Butch met with Mayor Grbelja and Tom Dancer regarding lease recommendations.
- Recommendations from various sources, such as the NRCS and USDA, have been incorporated in the lease.
- The bid package has been revised and will go to attorney Simon Kaufman for review; the bid package should be available January 15, 2010, with a submission deadline of February 15, 2010.
- There are 99 acres of leased farmland on the former Lee farm.
- The Township currently leases three other parcels: the Lichtman property and two parcels on Perrineville Road.

➤ **Large Animal OEM Plan**

- Ms. Butch, Ms. Romano and Mr. Blanco will be meeting with DPW Superintendent, Ken Gann, to discuss setting up an emergency animal shelter; meetings with the Salvation Army and the Humane Society also need to take place to determine how they can assist with this effort.

➤ **Animal Waste Management Plan (AWMP)**

- The County may be able to advertise the two approved vendors in the County's recycling flyer.
- Mr. Dancer has an arrangement with Freehold Cartage, Inc. (FCI) where FCI will pick up dumpsters, containing animal waste, from individuals and deliver them to Mr. Dancer for recycling.

- **Review roster to determine which terms expire on 12/31/09**
 - Ms. Butch and Mr. Asprocolas have terms that expire on December 31, 2009; both Ms. Butch and Mr. Asprocolas expressed interest in reappointment.
 - Mr. Halka, Mr. Peck, Ms. Pinhas and Mr. Romano all have terms that expire December 31, 2010.
 - Ordinance 05-11, which created the Agricultural Advisory Council within the Township, and Ordinance 07-27, which amends the requirements and conflicts of interest and adds a Code of Ethics, were distributed for review; Ordinance 05-11 lists the powers and duties of the Council and states that meetings are not mandatory for the months of July and August.
- **Schedule of Meetings for 2010**
 - Council members reviewed the draft schedule of meetings.
 - Ms. Butch made a motion to approve the schedule of meetings for 2010 with a second offered by Mr. Peck and all in favor.
- **Budget for 2010**
 - The 2009 operating budget report through October was distributed for review; the bulk of the budget was spent on advertising for the farm market.
 - Ms. Butch requested the inclusion of line items and budget for the large animal OEM plan and the animal waste management rules; the budget should include funding for mailings and a workshop.
 - Mr. Romano will email a draft of the 2010 budget to the Council on Wednesday for review; Mr. Romano will email the budget to Ms. D'Andrea on Friday, December 11th.

New Business

- **Council Accomplishments for 2009**
 - The list of accomplishments was emailed to Council members on Tuesday, December 1; the Secretary will resend the list to all Council members for review; if there are no revisions or updates to the list, the Secretary will forward it to the Mayor on Monday, December 14th.
- **New Jersey Vegetable Growers Convention**
 - The Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey will be sponsoring the Atlantic Coast Agricultural Convention and Trade Show on January 12, 13 and 14, 2010, at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Atlantic City.
 - The Secretary will post the convention information on the Ag Council website.
 - Mr. Asprocolas, Mr. Peck and Ms. Pinhas plan to attend the convention.
 - Council members' approved expenses will be charged to the 2010 operating budget.

➤ **Outstanding Young Farmer**

- The nomination form is posted on the Ag Council website.
- The submission deadline is January 15th.

Next Meeting

- The next Ag Council meeting has been scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2010, to allow for the Township Committee reorganization meeting.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Asprocolas with a second offered by Ms. Pinhas to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher