

Millstone Township Agricultural Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2010

Mr. Halka called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (5) Asprocolas, Butch, Dancer, Halka, Pinhas

Absent: (1) Peck

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Butch with a second offered by Mr. Asprocolas to approve the February 1, 2010. Roll call vote:

Ayes (5) Asprocolas, Butch, Dancer, Halka, Pinhas

Nays (0)

Correspondence

- Resolution 10-60, Supporting Video Lottery Terminals at Racetracks in New Jersey was passed at the February 17th Township Committee meeting.

Old Business

- **Farm Market**
 - The registration package was distributed for review. Currently there are no changes to the Registration Form, Seller's Waiver, Crop Plan Form or the Farm Market By-laws; the \$15.00 weekly vendor fee will remain in effect.
 - A memo was sent to the Township Committee requesting the use of the municipal parking lot on Stage Coach Road for the 2010 farm market season; Ms. Butch will contact Committeeman Kuczinski regarding discussing the request at the March 3rd TC meeting.
 - The start date is contingent on vendors selling bedding plants; the Secretary will contact last year's vendors, Tom Hart and Rand Peck, to determine their interest in selling bedding plants and shrubs at this year's market.
 - The Secretary will look into either updating the two 4' x 8' signs that were purchased last year with the new location and dates or purchasing new signs; permission from the TC will be required for an overhead banner on Stage Coach Road as well as posting a sign in front of the municipal building.
- **Former Lee Property Farm Lease**
 - The addendum to the lease was posted as a public notice in the Asbury Park Press; the Municipal Clerk contacted each person who picked up a bid package to notify them of the lease addendum.

- Bids that have been submitted are with attorney Duane Davison's office; the bids will be reviewed by Mr. Davison and is scheduled to be awarded on March 17th.
- **Large Animal OEM Plan**
 - Ms. Butch informed Council members that a 200-level course is being offered this week if anyone is interested; Ms. Butch has already taken the course.
- **Animal Waste Management Plan (AWMP)**
 - Mr. Dancer provided Freehold Cartage with information for advertising in the County's recycling newsletter.
 - The State will be enforcing the new rules; operations with 300 or more Animal Units (AUs) are required to develop and implement a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan which must be certified by the NJ Department of Agriculture; smaller operations are required to develop and implement a self-certified Animal Waste Management Plan; inspection of smaller operations will occur if the State receives complaints.
- **2010 New Jersey State Agriculture Convention**
 - Mr. Asprocolas attended the convention, which was condensed due to the impending storm; the first day of the convention was geared towards discussing and voting on resolutions and taking care of other business.
 - Governor Christie spoke for approximately 45 minutes at the delegate's dinner; he seems to be pro-farming, stating that he would never get rid of the Department of Agriculture; he plans to increase funding of the Jersey Fresh program and would like the DEP to be more farmer-friendly.
 - Ms. Butch reminded Council members that they are welcome to submit comments on agriculture and farming to the Mayor who will forward them to the Governor's office.

New Business - none.

Next Meeting

- The next Ag Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2010.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a second offered by Mr. Dancer to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher