

**Millstone Township
Agricultural Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes for January 30, 2017**
470 Stage Coach Road, Millstone Township, NJ 08510

Mr. Asprocolas called the meeting to order at 7:56 PM.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (3) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck

Absent: (3) Dancer, Pinhas, Posten

In attendance: Committeewoman Grbelja, Township Committee Liaison (arrived 8:08 PM).

Public Comment: Opened and closed at 7:57 PM with no public in attendance.

Reorganization

➤ **Appointments**

- Resolution No. 17-19: Appointing Tom Dancer, Randy Peck, Kate Posten and Alternate, Shirley Pinhas, to two year terms commencing 1/1/17 and ending 12/31/18.
- Resolution No. 17-20: Appointing Tom Dancer as the Millstone Township Representative to the Monmouth County Agriculture Development Board for 2017.

➤ **Election of Officers**

- Ms. Butch nominated Mr. Asprocolas for Chairman with a Second offer by Mr. Peck. Mr. Asprocolas accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made. Roll call vote:
AYES: (3) Butch, Peck, Asprocolas
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
- Mr. Asprocolas nominated Mr. Peck for Vice Chairman with a Second offer by Ms. Butch. Mr. Peck accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made. Roll call vote:
AYES: (3) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)

➤ **Designation of Official Newspapers**

Ms. Butch made a Motion to designate the Asbury Park Press and the Times of Trenton as the Council's official newspapers with a Second offered by Mr. Asprocolas.

AYES: (3) Butch, Asprocolas, Peck
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)

➤ **Adoption of Meeting Schedule for 2017**

Council members discussed changing the meeting date from the first Monday of the month to the fourth Monday of the month to accommodate Council members' meeting schedules. Mr. Asprocolas made a Motion with a Second offered by Ms. Butch to adopt the following schedule of meetings for 2017 and the first meeting of 2018:

January 30, 2017
February 27, 2017

July 24, 2017
August 28, 2017

March 27, 2017
April 24, 2017
May 22, 2017
June 26, 2017

September 25, 2017
October 23, 2017
November 27, 2017
December 18, 2017
January 22, 2018

AYES: (3) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Mr. Peck with a Second offered by Mr. Asprocolas to approve the December 5, 2016, minutes.

AYES: (2) Peck, Asprocolas
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)

Correspondence

- Email from SADC dated 12/23/16 re: Draft Winery Special Occasion Events Regulations (email forwarded to Ag Council on 12/23/16). No discussion.
- Email from SADC dated 1/27/17 re: New Grant Funding for Deer Fencing on Preserved Farms (email forwarded to Ag Council on 1/27/17). The application is included in the package and has been posted to the Ag Council's website.

Old Business

- **Large Animal OEM Plan:** Nothing new to report.
- **Farm Leases:** Nothing new to report.
- **Open Space Trust Account Activity:** The 2016 activity report for the period January through December was distributed for review. No discussion.
- **Wildlife Management on Farms Next to Parkland:** A regional meeting with various State, County and local organizations and farmers impacted by wildlife is necessary to discuss ideas and work towards resolving wildlife issues on farms adjacent to parkland.
- **Working with County on Legislative Issues:** Rutgers Cooperative Extension has four tours planned. Farmers are needed to attend the tours so they can speak directly with legislators regarding the benefits of local produce and agricultural products as well as the economic impact of the agriculture industry on the State economy.
- **Farmland Preservation Process:** Discussion deferred to end of meeting.

Pending Legislation and Regulations

- **SADC Regulations:** Nothing new to report.

Events

- Combined New Jersey Agriculture Convention and NJ Vegetable Growers Convention: February 7, 8 & 9 at Harrah's in Atlantic City. Mr. Asprocolas, Mr. Peck and Ms. Butch will be attending the convention.
- New Jersey Land Conservation Rally: Friday, March 17, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick, NJ. Mr. Asprocolas and Mr. Peck will attend the rally.

New Business

- No new business was presented.

At 8:14 PM, Ms. Butch made a Motion with a Second offered by Mr. Peck to move to executive session; with all in favor, the Council moved to executive session to discuss potential preservation projects.

At 8:25 PM, the Council returned to open session. Ms. Butch suggested forming a subcommittee to work on the Farmland Preservation Process document in between regular Council meetings and will follow-up with Council members via email. Mr. Asprocolas suggested holding a joint meeting with members of the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council to update the process document. Having no further business to discuss, a Motion was made by Ms. Butch with a Second offered by Mr. Peck and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Maher
Council Secretary