

**Millstone Township
Agricultural Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes for April 25, 2018**

215 Millstone Road, Millstone Township, NJ 08535

Mr. Asprocolas called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (4) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck, Pinhas

Absent: (2) Dancer, Posten

In attendance: Committeewoman Grbelja, Dan Knox of the State Agriculture Development Committee, Cindy Roberts of the State Agriculture Development Committee, Diane Morelli, the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council Chairperson, Tony Marra of the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council and Kelly Scott of the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Mr. Peck with a Second offered by Mr. Asprocolas to approve the March 28, 2018, meeting minutes.

AYES: (3) Peck, Asprocolas, Butch

NAYS: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

SADC Presentation

Cindy Roberts, SADC Development and Training Coordinator, and Dan Knox, SADC Central/South Regional Coordinator were in attendance to present information regarding the FY2019 funding round and changes to the planning incentive grant program. Ms. Roberts provided an update on staffing changes at the SADC and discussed how the SADC will be dealing with complex applications as well as what the SADC is doing to keep farming viable and productive. There was a lengthy discussion that covered topics including the Ag Council's role in the community, how preservation funding is currently allocated among the various programs and potential program rule changes.

At 7:33 PM, Ms. Butch made a Motion with a Second offered by Mr. Peck to move to executive session to discuss potential farmland preservation acquisitions.

AYES: (4) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck, Pinhas

NAYS: (0)

At 8:07 PM, the Council returned to open session.

Correspondence: No correspondence was presented.

Old Business

- Large Animal OEM Plan: Nothing new reported.
- Farm Leases: Both the Millstone Park and the Perrineville Road farm leases were awarded to Carmine Infante.
- Open Space Trust Account Activity: The 2018 activity report, with information through March, was distributed for review.
- Wildlife Management on Farms Next to Parkland: Council members entered into a lengthy discussion regarding conducting a deer count, presentations for the next wildlife management meeting, hunting regulations and sending out a survey to township farmers.
- Working with County on Legislative Issues: The County Board of Agriculture is asking Ag groups to write letters in support of the \$10 million budget request looking

for the Agriculture Experiment Station. They are also requesting the Monmouth County Freeholders to fund and support a second Ag Agent. There will be an urban tour, for new legislators and freeholders, to be held in Essex County on June 12th.

- Spring Newsletter: The newsletter is on schedule for May 1st mailing.
- Millstone Park: No discussion.

Pending Legislation and Regulations

- SADC Regulations: Nothing new reported.

Events

- 2018 Clambake: Sunday, June 10th, at Wagner Farm Park. Council members discussed volunteers; there will be a special ticket for "Take Away" meals this year.

New Business: No new business was discussed.

At 9:03 pm, Mr. Asprocolas opened the meeting to public comment; seeing none, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed at 9:03 pm.

Having no further business to discuss, a Motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a Second offered by Mr. Peck and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Maher
Council Secretary