

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 28, 2011

Ms. Butch called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: (6) Blanco, Butch, Kau, Morelli, Romano, Siedman

Absent: (5) Asprocolas, Denardo, Kuczinski, Marra, Schloss

Public Comment Session: No public in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Ms. Siedman with a Second offered by Mr. Blanco to approve the June 23, 2011. Roll call vote:

Ayes: (3) Siedman, Blanco, Butch

Nays: (0)

Correspondence

- **Susan E. Payne, SADC Executive Director, dated 6/7/11:** Granting final approval to the Millstone Township 2012 Municipal Planning Incentive Grant application.

Old Business

- **Trails**
 - *Industrial Park:* Nothing new to report.
 - *White Birch Trail Grant:* Grant work has begun; the Trailblazers have notified the Township that they are planning the trail and will be working in the area.
- **Trail Grant Work:** The Perrineville Road/Orchard Trail needs to be mowed. Pictures will be taken after the trail is mowed and will be submitted for grant reimbursement.
- **Education Process/Open Space Property Acquisition:** Ms. Butch approved the latest version of the document explaining the farmland preservation process. The Secretary will email the document to all Council members.

New Business: None.

Events

- **Possible Open House at Remarkable Sites:** Tabled due to Ms. Schloss' absence.
- **Clambake 2011 Evaluation**
 - The updated financial report was sent to Ms. Butch and Mr. Kuczinski via email. Ms. Butch will look into why the Secretary's salary for the day of the clambake was charged to the OS Trust. Expenses were to be monitored for one year.
- **Millstone Day**
 - Sunday, September 18th at Frogbridge Day Camp.
 - The Ag Council will not be coordinating the tractor display this year.
 - The Council will have an information table with pictures on display. Council members discussed ideas for drawing attention to the display including distributing apples, raffling off a large pumpkin and purchasing decorations.

Committee Reports

Finance: The 2011 Open Space Trust account activity summary was distributed for review.

Preservation Signage: Nothing to report.

Public Relations/Publications – Potential newsletter articles:

- Property closings: The Secretary will prepare an article on property closings and forward to Ms. Butch for review.
- Green Acres 50th Anniversary: The Secretary will prepare a small article and Ms. Schloss will submit information on the photo contest.
- Tax Impact (Conservation Rally workshop): The Secretary will prepare the article.
- Why preserve land: Ms. Schloss to write article.
- Clambake Thank You: the Secretary will prepare the article.
- Historic Preservation Commission: an article on an upcoming Edgar Allen Poe event in October will be submitted by the Historic Commission.
- Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Award presented to the Township for Environmental Leadership: Ms. Schloss will contact the Mayor regarding details for the article.
- Ag Council: The Ag Council may submit an article on amendments to motor vehicle regulations for agriculture.

Legislative Awareness

- The Governor has legislation on his desk to sign which will release preservation money. When the legislation is signed, Millstone will receive \$450K from the Green Acres Program and another \$500K from the Farmland Preservation Program.

Stewardship: Nothing new to report.

Watershed Committee Liaison: The committee has not had a meeting.

Recreation Planning Committee Liaison: The Committee will be taking a tour of the property now that the crop has been harvested. An engineering study is being prepared for the structural soundness of the dam. The Committee is working with the DEP to determine placement of roads and parking lots and to obtain necessary approvals and permits. The goal of the Committee is to plan out Millstone Park in organized phases over time. A sub-committee has been formed to solicit donations from businesses.

Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications

- CKV Realty (Garden Center) Burnt Tavern Road: Nothing to report.
- Seasonal World: The Township lost the law suit; the application was on last night's BoA agenda.
- Perl Acres North: Minor sub-division was approved by the Planning Board. One lot was divided into two lots with one lot for the preserved farm and the other lot for the Green Acres open space.

At 7:58 pm a Motion was made by Mr. Romano with a Second offered by Ms. Siedman and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 8:54 pm the Council returned to regular session.

Ms. Butch made two announcements:

- The Monmouth County Greentable on the Township's stewardship program that Ms. Butch and Ms. D'Andrea presented on July 12th was well received.

- Ms. Butch would like Ms. D'Andrea to present the information to the OSFP Council at the Council's September meeting. Council members have been walking various open space properties but that is one part of the stewardship program. Council members agreed to invite Ms. D'Andrea to the September meeting. Ms. Siedman was asked to contribute to a newsletter article on the stewardship program. The Environmental Commission was also asked to contribute to the article regarding conservation easements they have been monitoring.
- Ms. Butch showed Council members an article that appeared in the July 22 edition of the Asbury Park Press. There will be a referendum question on the November 8th ballot is Colts Neck regarding using municipal open space trust funds for open space maintenance. The original referendum question only addressed preservation, not maintenance. Unlike Millstone, Colts Neck does not have a lot of land left to preserve. Council members discussed signage on open space properties. Posting of the SADC Preserved Farmland sign is voluntary. The Secretary will forward the list of properties included in the SADC sign mailing.

Mr. Romano discussed a fall harvest dinner as an alternative to the annual clambake fundraiser with local seasonal produce possibly donated by area farmers. Council members also discussed a cutoff date for increasing the clambake ticket price such as increasing the price by \$5.00 seven to ten days prior to the event. The Secretary reviewed clambake income and expenses for 2010 and 2011.

Having no further business to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Siedman with a Second offered by Mr. Romano and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher
Council Secretary