

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP  
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, July 26, 2012**

Ms. Butch called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

**Roll Call**

Present: (7) Asprocolas, Blanco, Butch, Kuczinski, Romano, Schloss (7:33 pm),  
Siedman

Absent: (4) Denardo, Kau, Marra, Morelli

**Public Comment Session:** No public in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes**

A Motion was made by Mr. Kuczinski with a Second offered by Ms. Butch to approve the June 28, 2012, minutes. Roll call vote:

AYES (2) Kuczinski, Butch

NAYS (0)

ABSTAIN (0)

**Correspondence**

- **Letter from the Agricultural Advisory Council re: Co-sponsorship of the Annual Clambake Fundraiser.** Mr. Asprocolas, the Agricultural Advisory Council Chair, read the letter which explains the mission of the Ag Council; the Ag Council's involvement with the establishment of an agriculture museum at the Baird Homestead and Cultural Resource Center; the acquisition of historic artifacts as a result of the closure of the NJ Agriculture Museum in New Brunswick; and the relocation of the historic Allen House Barn. Council members discussed using 50% of funds raised from the past six clambake fundraisers to partially fund the relocation of the Allen House Barn from its current location on Stage Coach Road to the Baird Homestead. The Affordable Housing Alliance will be constructing age-restricted affordable housing at the site and the Allen House along with all the outbuildings are scheduled to be demolished. The Friends of Millstone Township Historic Registered Properties, in conjunction with the Historic Commission, is researching ways to either save the building or salvage the timbers. The New Jersey Barn Company was consulted and has determined that the barn is worth saving and can be relocated to another site. A relocation plan and associated cost analysis are being developed and quotes are being obtained to take the building down, store the dismantled barn and re-erect the barn at the Baird Homestead. Funding sources, such as grants and the use of the Open Space Trust, are also being considered. The Barn would become part of the Baird Homestead and would be used to house museum artifacts and agricultural equipment. Council members agreed that relocating the barn corresponds with the mission of the Ag Council and supports the use of this open space acquisition. Ms. Joann Keltly, Township Historian and Historic Commission Chair, was in attendance and provided Council members with pictures of items obtained from the NJ Agriculture Museum. Items received from the Ag Museum are being obtained at no cost and will be on loan indefinitely.

PBS will be filming a documentary about the New Jersey Barn Company. Relocating the Allen Barn is a candidate for the subject of the documentary, which can be filmed in phases to correspond to a phased relocation project. The Open Space Council has the option of contributing a portion of their 50% of the clambake funds towards the relocation of the Allen House Barn.

## Old Business

### ➤ **Trails**

- *Industrial Park*: Nothing new to report.
- *White Birch Trail Grant*: Nothing new to report.
- *Doctor's Creek Trail Grant*: Nothing new to report.

**New Business:** No new business.

## Events

- **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Open Space Clambake:** The final financial report was distributed. Two comments/suggestions for future clambake fundraisers include improving the acoustics in the building and projecting a slide show of preserved farms and open space properties.
- **Millstone Day:** Sunday, September 23, 2012, from noon to 5:00 pm at Frogbridge Day Camp. The following four groups will have tables together for a coordinated display: the Open Space Council, the Ag Council, the Friends of MTHRP and the Historic Commission. Ideas include:
  - Displaying some of the items received from the NJ Ag Museum.
  - Homemade cider and ice cream; the Health Department has been notified and Ms. Butch received a list of stipulations.
  - Demonstrations such as spinning wool and pumping water by hand.
  - Mr. Dancer has been asked to bring an antique tractor and Mr. Pado has been asked to bring an antique car.
  - Pictures of farms and open space.
  - Nutritional information and handouts.
  - Old fashioned games for children; someone would need to run the games and additional space would be required.
- **Open Space Pace:** Saturday, September 29, 2012, at Freehold Raceway. The event begins at 10:00 am and ends in the evening with a concert by Southside Johnny.

## Committee Reports

**Finance:** The 2012 Open Space Trust activity through June was distributed for review. Mr. Kuczinski spoke with the Township Administrator who agreed that detailed itemized information will be provided for all salary expenses charged to the Trust as well as any unusual or new charges.

**Public Relations/Publications:** Publication is pending closing on the Baird House property.

**Legislative Awareness:** Nothing to report.

**Stewardship/Monitoring:** Ms. Siedman is waiting for maps for the next round of site visits. Dumping continues at the Gravatt Circle open space property.

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

**Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications:** Nothing to report.

At 8:26 pm a Motion was made by Mr. Romano with a Second offered by Mr. Blanco and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 8:36 pm the Council returned to regular session.

Having no further business to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Blanco with a Second offered by Ms. Schloss and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher  
Council Secretary