

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 27, 2017
215 Millstone Road, Millstone Twp, NJ 08535

Ms. Morelli called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: (8) Asprocolas, Butch, Grbelja, Marra, Morelli, Oxley, Scott, Siedman

Absent: (2) Blackwell, Denardo

Ms. Morelli announced the resignation of Michele Lenzo and expressed appreciation for the time Ms. Lenzo dedicated to the Council.

Presentation: Ms. Morelli introduced Amanda Brockwell, Deputy Executive Director of Monmouth Conservation Foundation. Ms. Brockwell presented an overview of the State's farmland preservation program and discussed the program's goals and the importance of building trust and relationships with landowners. Ms. Brockwell answered questions and Council members thanked Ms. Brockwell for her informative presentation.

Public Comment: Opened and closed at 8:21 PM with no public in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion to approve the March 23, 2017, minutes was made by Ms. Oxley with a Second offered by Ms. Scott. Roll call vote:

AYES: (7) Oxley, Scott, Asprocolas, Butch, Grbelja, Morelli, Siedman

NAYS: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Correspondence: No correspondence was presented at the meeting.

Old Business

- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #12-04, Baird Homestead Development Project:** Nothing new to report.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #14-12, Millstone Park Phase 1 Development:** Nothing new to report.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #15-03, Historic ME Church:** Nothing new to report.
- **Municipal Open Space Stewardship:** Ms. Morelli and Ms. Scott will conduct a stewardship visit of the White Birch open space area on May 6th. Letters have been mailed to adjacent property owners.
- **Budget for 2017:** The requested budget, which includes funding for two newsletters and training, has been approved. The Secretary will prepare a spreadsheet to track training hours for Council members.
- **Newsletter:** A draft of the newsletter was distributed for review. Council members discussed revisions to the draft. The goal is to have the newsletter finalized and sent to the printer by Monday, May 1st.
- **Clambake / Fundraising:** Ms. Morelli thanked Ms. Scott and Mr. Asprocolas for volunteering to co-chair the clambake. A copy of the sponsor letter and event flyer were distributed for Council member review. The flyer will be updated with the Grown in Monmouth logo to reflect that the top neck and little neck clams will be sourced from the Bayshore. Ms. Scott explained that the clam shells will be collected and recycled for a reef replenishment program. Council members discussed preparations

and which Council members would be available to help on Saturday and the day of the event.

New Business

- **Time Capsule:** Ms. Butch provided details regarding the restoration celebration at the historic Clarksburg Methodist Episcopal Church on Saturday, June 3rd. The celebration will include a time capsule and an ice cream social.
- **Update "Total Acreage Preserved" Signs:** The acreage number on the Millstone signs will be updated with the preserved acreage as of August 1st. A picture will be taken of the updated sign to accompany an article for the fall newsletter.

Events

- **Clambake:** Discussed under Old Business.
- **Other events for 2017:** Ms. Morelli asked if any Council members had any other ideas for fundraisers.

Committee Reports

- **Finance:** C/Grbelja explained that corrections will be made to the Open Space Trust account for disbursements related to the Burnt Tavern Road acquisition. Grant reimbursement requests will be submitted when the Baird Homestead and Historic Church projects are completed. A modification of the grant project at Millstone Park has been submitted to the county.
- **Fundraising:** Previously discussed.
- **Grant Writing:** Nothing new reported.
- **Land Acquisition:** Nothing to report in open session.
- **Legislative Awareness:** Ms. Butch provided an update on legislation including: Sonny Perdue was approved as the new Secretary of Agriculture; legislation exempting equine boarding from the state sales tax is being prepared; legislation is being written regarding alternates for farmer members of the SADC; a new motor vehicle booklet, available from the Farm Bureau, contains information about the farmer license, farmer plates and other rules and regulations that impact farmers.
- **Site Assessments:** Nothing to report in open session.
- **OSFP Inventory, Stewardship & Management:** A site visit of the White Birch open space area is scheduled for May 6th.
- **Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Review:** Nothing new reported.
- **Public Relations, Publications & Education:** The spring newsletter is scheduled to be mailed within the next few weeks.
- **Tax Register Review:** Nothing new reported.

At 9:10 PM, a Motion to move to executive session was made by Ms. Morelli with a Second offered by Mr. Asprocolas.

AYES: (8) Butch, Asprocolas, Grbelja, Marra, Morelli, Oxley, Scott, Siedman

NAYS: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

At 9:47 PM the Council returned to regular session. Council members discussed an article that is being written regarding the County's benchmark for public parkland. While the ratio of acreage to 1,000 people may be suitable for some municipalities, it doesn't work for an environmentally sensitive town like Millstone. The Council will provide a quote addressing the County's benchmark. Having no further business to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was

made by Ms. Butch with a Second offered by Ms. Morelli and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Maher
Council Secretary