

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, May 25, 2017
215 Millstone Road, Millstone Twp, NJ 08535

Ms. Morelli called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: (7) Blackwell, Butch, Grbelja (arrived 8:14 PM), Marra (arrived 7:58 PM), Morelli, Oxley, Scott

Absent: (2) Asprocolas, Siedman

Ms. Morelli introduced and welcomed Mr. Blackwell to the Council.

Ms. Morelli announced the resignation of Charlie Denardo and expressed appreciation for the time Mr. Denardo dedicated to the Council.

Presentation: Ms. Butch presented the Monmouth County Park System 2017 County Open Space Plan and explained that the MCPS is updating their Master Plan and is seeking input from municipalities regarding recreation activities and target properties. Council members discussed updates to the target property list, protecting sensitive lands and habitats and the different types of land preservation. Council members should submit additions to the target list via email directly to C/Grbelja who will be compiling information from the various boards and commissions.

Public Comment: Opened and closed at 8:30 PM with no public in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion to approve the April 27, 2017, minutes was made by Ms. Oxley with a Second offered by Ms. Scott. Roll call vote:

AYES: (6) Oxley, Scott, Butch, Grbelja, Mara, Morelli

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:** The paperwork for reimbursement will be submitted upon completion of the windmill project.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #14-12, Millstone Park Phase 1 Development:** The SADC sent correspondence to the Township regarding soil disturbance at Millstone Park. Ms. Butch notified the SADC that soil has not been removed from the property and the soil will be replaced when the grading work is complete.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #15-03, Historic ME Church:** Final aspects of the project are being completed. An open house celebration is scheduled to take place on June 3rd.
- **Municipal Open Space Stewardship**
 - Ms. Butch discussed Green Acres compliance inspections and signage. The Secretary will contact Green Acres to request signs for properties that do not have signs posted.
 - Ms. Scott and Mr. Asprocolas conducted a baseline visit of the Burnt Tavern Meadows (CKV) property on May 5th. Ms. Scott reviewed the stewardship process and provided information about the condition of the property.

- A tentative date of June 21st has been set for the Livak property and trail easement stewardship visit. Letters to adjacent property owners have been mailed. Ms. Scott and Mr. Marra offered to conduct the baseline site visit.
- C/Grbelja reminded Council members that the documented stewardship process was distributed in February and only persons authorized by the Township, carrying Township-issued photo identification badges, are permitted to conduct stewardship site visits.
- **Newsletter:** Council members were provided with a copy of the spring newsletter. The target date for the fall newsletter is October 1st. All articles for the fall issue should be complete and edited by the August meeting. Potential articles include a message from the Agricultural Advisory Council chairman, an update on Millstone Park, preservation closings and the new preserved acreage number.
- **Clambake / Fundraising:** Sponsorships are currently at \$9,300 with an additional \$2,250 expected. Council members discussed volunteers needed the day of the event, shopping and preparations that need to be done on Saturday, June 10th.
- **Time Capsule:** Ms. Butch discussed the time capsule project and the Clarksburg Church open house event that is scheduled for June 3rd.
- **Update "Total Acreage Preserved" Signs:** The acreage number on the Millstone signs will be updated with the preserved acreage as of August 1st.
- **Millstone Township Master Plan Review:** The open space and farmland preservation plans are being updated and language regarding stream corridors and the natural resources will be strengthened. There will be a public meeting at some point in the future during which the public will have input to the plan.
- **Monmouth County Park System Master Plan Review:** Discussed during the presentation.

New Business

Events

- **Clambake:** Discussed under Old Business.
- **Other Events for 2017:** Ms. Scott announced that she will be hosting the Council's information table at Millstone Day this year. Council members discussed ideas for the Millstone Day display.

Committee Reports

- **Finance:** The disbursement from the Open Space Trust that occurred in January, for the Burnt Tavern Meadows acquisition, will be corrected. Work associated with the development of Millstone Park was bonded and as the note comes due the funds will be disbursed from the Open Space Trust. Engineering costs associated with overseeing the work at the park are also being charged to the Open Space Trust.
- **Fundraising:** Discussed under Old Business.
- **Grant Writing:** Nothing new reported.
- **Legislative Awareness:** Ms. Butch discussed the need for farm labor and explained that new agricultural worker program legislation has been introduced at the federal level.
- **OSFP Inventory, Stewardship & Management:** Discussed under Old Business.
- **Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Review:** The Planning Board did not meet in June; nothing new reported.
- **Public Relations, Publications & Education:** Discussed under Old Business.

At 9:32 PM, a Motion to move to executive session was made by Ms. Butch with a Second offered by Mr. Marra. The Secretary read the resolution.

AYES: (7) Butch, Marra, Blackwell, Grbelja, Morelli, Oxley, Scott

NAYS: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

At 9:51 PM the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was made by C/Grbelja with a Second offered by Ms. Oxley and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Maher
Council Secretary