

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP  
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
January 8, 2007  
Meeting Minutes**

At 7:15 pm, the Meeting was called to Order.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Butch, Pinhas, Romano, Mayor Grbelja

Absent: Halka, Wilson

The public comment portion opened and closed at 7:16 pm.

**Reorganization**

- The election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were postponed until the February meeting.
- The Asbury Park Press and The Messenger Press were designated as the Council's official newspapers.
- The following monthly meeting schedule was adopted.

February 5	May 7	August 6	November 5
March 5	June 4	September 10	December 3
April 2	July 2	October 1	January 7, 2008

**Old Business**

- The Equine Rescue Clinic was discussed.
  - The clinic will take place on February 5, 2007, from 7 – 9 pm at the fire house. Council members will meet at the fire house at 6:30 pm.
  - Ms. Pinhas will coordinate our equipment needs. The fire house will provide a podium, microphone, VCR, and TV. Additionally, they will set up the room. The Township's proxima will be used.
  - Mr. Romano will open the program and introduce the speakers.
  - Dr. Anne Pierok, DVM, and Dr. Daniel Keenan, DVM, have determined who will present which portions of the clinic. Topics include: Equine Behavior, Trailer Rescue, Barn Rescue, and Equine First Aid.
  - Ms. Butch has offered to put together a sample kit so that participants can see what emergency supplies should be kept in/near the barn.
  - Mr. Halka and Ms. Butch will visit a local farm with a smoke and heat alarm. The owner has offered the Council the opportunity to set up a field trip for interested participants to see the sprinkler system. Product information will be provided at the Clinic if it is available.
  - Ms. Butch will work with the fire department to develop a Barn Safety Checklist that will be provided to participants.
  - Invitations will be sent out this week.
  - Refreshments will be provided.
  - Certificates of Attendance will be provided.

- State Agricultural Convention – The 2007 Convention will be held at the Tropicana Casino and Resort in Atlantic City on Monday, February 12, through Wednesday, February 14, 2007. Ms. Butch and Ms. Pinhas will review the program and let Ms. Naugle know if they are interested in attending any portion of the convention.

### **New Business**

- Open Space & Farmland Preservation Update – Ms. Butch provided a Farmland Preservation Update.
  - The state is adopting a new set of rules for Farmland Preservation. Ms. Butch and Mr. Wingerter will attend a meeting to review the new rules. The rules will become effective with the next bond issue.
  - A number of new applications have been received from farm owners.
  - Several large farms in town have applied for preservation through the County Easement Program.
  - Mayor Grbelja offered that the Township Committee will be passing a resolution at the next Township Committee meeting supporting the replenishment of the Garden State Preservation Trust.
- Mr. Romano discussed the need to meet with the Office of Emergency Management to discuss emergency procedures for farm animals. Specifically, what water sources will be used if power to the area was lost for several days. Mr. Romano's wife, Maggie, who has done work at the state-level in this area, will attend the March meeting to offer suggestions in this area. The Council will then approach OEM with recommendations.
- Mr. Halka, Ms. Pinhas, and Mr. Romano were reappointed to the Council for two year terms.
- Ms. Butch requested the Ms. Naugle contact Mr. Tim Dey and Mr. Halka prior to each meeting to determine if there is any new information in the farming and nursery industries that should be discussed by the Council or posted to the website.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Naugle