

**Millstone Township
Agricultural Advisory Council**

Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2009

Mr. Romano called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

Roll Call

Present: (5) Asprocolas, Butch, Peck, Pinhas, Romano

Absent: (1) Halka

A motion was made by Mr. Asprocolas to approve the May 4, 2009, minutes with a second offered by Ms. Butch and all in favor.

Correspondence

- There was no correspondence.

Old Business

➤ **Farm Market**

- Mayor Grbelja cut the ribbon at the opening day celebration on May 30th. Ms. D'Andrea took pictures which will be sent to the Examiner.
- Six vendors were in attendance on opening day.
- Business was moderate, approximately half of an average day last season; it's early in the season and business should pick up as more produce comes into season; residents need to get used to the idea of the market, which started late last year.
- Flyers were distributed to school children and two advertisements appeared in the Examiner.
- One 4' x 8' sign has been installed at the corner of Millstone and Perrineville Roads. The second 4' x 8' sign is in the process of being posted at the corner of Stillhouse and Stage Coach Roads.
- The in-ground signs were received but the posts were not substantial enough to hold the signs upright. The signs will be installed when the new posts arrive. The Secretary will provide 2 signs to Mr. Romano for posting at the soccer fields and at the Little League Fields on Saturday morning. Mr. Romano will retrieve the signs on Saturday evening. Mr. Asprocolas will take one sign to the fishing derby on Saturday morning.
- Mr. Romano will also hand out flyers at the soccer fields and Mr. Asprocolas will hand out flyers at the fishing derby on Saturday morning, June 6th.
- Ms. Pinhas handed out flyers and displayed the green bag at a Senior Citizens meeting.
- Ideas were discussed that would draw traffic to the market including the Sheriff's identification van or a mobile medical vehicle.
- Feedback from customers was all good.

- Mr. Asprocolas will provide a farm market display at the Clambake.
- **Manure Management Public Notice**
 - Flyers were mailed to residents and information has been posted on the website.
- **Large Animal OEM Plan**
 - Ms. Butch and Ms. Romano attended the Disaster Animal Response Team (DART) training in April. The class was 3 full days in duration with a written test and table top demonstration required at the conclusion. Both Ms. Butch and Ms. Romano passed and received certificates.
 - Ms. Butch and Ms. Romano have also taken other required certification courses. Ms. Butch has completed the course requirements for the basic certification and Ms. Romano has two courses left to complete.
 - When Ms. Romano completes the basic certification requirements, she and Ms. Butch will begin to write the Township's animal response team procedure.
- **Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council's 3rd Annual Clambake Fundraiser**
 - Sunday, June 7th at the Clarksburg Inn.
 - Mr. Romano, Mr. Asprocolas, Ms. Butch and Ms. Pinhas volunteered to help at the Clambake.

New Business

- **Impact of Inclusionary Element on COAH Objection** - Ms. Butch provided the following update:
 - Millstone currently has a COAH plan in place but it has not yet been approved by COAH; there is opposition to the plan.
 - A group of residents has filed a lawsuit against the Township.
 - The lawsuit states that the residents are asking COAH to order Millstone to put 50% of the COAH obligation in the RUP zone and the other 50% of the obligation to be fulfilled by the Township purchasing the land and building the units and partnering with a non-profit group to operate the housing.
 - At the State level, the DEP and COAH have an agreement in place that states if a town uses inclusionary zone to meet the COAH obligation, the DEP will not preserve any land until the COAH obligation is met in that zone.
 - All existing farmland that is targeted for preservation is in the RUP zone.
 - This will shut down all potential preservations and will impact any land preservations that are in process.

- The Ag Council works closely with the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council and if inclusionary zoning is implemented, it will impact how both Councils operate.
 - Ms. Butch has asked the County to provide more information regarding the inclusionary element and will follow the lawsuit and provide updates going forward.
- **Millstone Day 2009** will be held on Sunday, September 13th at Frogbridge Day Camp from 12 noon to 5 pm.
- Ms. Butch suggested having children sign a big "Thank you" card to the owners of Frogbridge for donating the use of the camp along with all the employees that operate the camp for the day.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Asprocolas with a second offered by Ms. Pinhas to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher