

# Millstone Township Agricultural Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2010

Ms. Butch called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

## Roll Call

Present: (4) Butch, Dancer, Peck, Pinhas

Absent: (2) Asprocolas, Halka

## Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a second offered by Mr. Peck to approve the July 6, 2010, meeting minutes. Roll Call vote:

Ayes (4) Pinhas, Peck, Butch, Dancer

Nays (0)

A motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a second offered by Mr. Dancer to approve the July 6, 2010, executive session meeting minutes. Roll Call vote:

Ayes (4) Pinhas, Dancer, Butch, Peck

Nays (0)

**Correspondence:** There was no correspondence to discuss.

## Old Business

- **Community Farm Market:** Mr. Asprocolas has pulled out of the market due to low sales and weekly financial losses. The market is down to two vendors: Patterson Farms and Swerdel Farm. The vendors inquired about reducing or waiving the weekly table fee. The weekly fee cannot be waived or reduced because the vendor fee ordinance has been adopted. The two remaining vendors would like to continue with the market on a week-to-week basis. The Council agreed that this is an acceptable arrangement. Weather and crop production were also discussed. At this time, the pumpkin crop looks good which may help market sales pick up in fall. Competition from other local farm markets, such as the Hightstown market, was discussed. The market operates on Friday evenings, is located in the center of town, offers entertainment and is within walking distance for area residents. The Hightstown market also accepts WIC and farm market checks, which draws additional customers. Vendors must be certified by the State, and have an approved farm account, to accept WIC and farm market checks. The checks help both the farmers and low income customers. At the end of the season there will be a discussion regarding sponsoring the farm market in 2011.
- **Large Animal OEM Plan:** Nothing new to discuss.

- **Non-life Hazard Fire Inspection for S-1 and S-2 Buildings:** Ms. Butch will contact Mr. Kuczinski regarding the ordinance.
- **Use & Permits for Propane Gas on Agricultural Businesses:** This item has been resolved and will be removed from the agenda going forward.
- **Compliance with Millstone Property Maintenance Code:** This item has been resolved and will be removed from the agenda going forward.
- **Millstone Day** is scheduled for Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 12 noon to 5:00 pm, at Frogbridge Day Camp.
  - Ms. Butch contacted the Recreation Department regarding a location for the tractor display and plans to meet with the Recreation Secretary and Mr. Pugliese at Frogbridge to determine an appropriate area for the display.
  - Mr. Dancer anticipates having between 15 to 20 tractors to display, including his own as well as some from other local farmers; approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 acre of area will be required to accommodate the display; Mr. Dancer suggested marking out the sprinkler heads with flags to prevent damage; Mr. Peck suggested notifying the Examiner regarding the display.
  - Mr. Asprocolas had offered to provide apples to give away.
- **Ordinance 10-18, Riparian Zone Ordinance:** The second reading is scheduled for this month; the Secretary will obtain a copy of the ordinance from the Municipal Clerk.
- **Ag Council Sponsored Seminar:** Ms. Butch has booked Karen Kritz, of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, for Monday, January 10, 2011. The topic will be motor vehicle rules and regulations related to farming and farm vehicles. An announcement will be made at the August 4<sup>th</sup> MCADB meeting. The Secretary will request the court room for the seminar and will prepare a flyer and send it to Amanda Brockwell and Harriet Honigfeld of the MCADB. The seminar will be open to the public.
- **Low Hanging Wires:** Representatives from the power company attended the July 28<sup>th</sup> Shade Tree Commission meeting. The Township Engineer and the Environmental Engineer also attended the meeting. The Secretary will request a report from the Environmental Engineer.

**New Business** – None.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a second offered by Mr. Dancer to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher