

# Millstone Township Agricultural Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2011

Mr. Asprocolas called the meeting to order at 7:44 pm.

The Secretary read the adequate notice.

## Roll Call

Present: (5) Asprocolas, Butch, Dancer, Halka, Pinhas

Absent: (1) Peck

## Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a Second offered by Mr. Dancer to approve the April 4, 2011, minutes.

Ayes: (5) Asprocolas, Butch, Dancer, Halka, Pinhas

Nay: (0)

## Correspondence

- New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission dated 4/27/11: Discussed under Old Business.

## Old Business

- **Large Animal OEM Plan:** Nothing new to report.
- **Low-hanging wires and tree branches:**
  - Jonathan Pinhas appeared before the Township Committee on April 6<sup>th</sup> to complain about low hanging branches throughout the Township. Mr. Pinhas also presented a list of problem trees to the Shade Tree Commission.
  - The Environmental Scientist had prepared a memo last year to the Township Administrator and Zoning Officer regarding tree clearance for farm vehicles. Ms. Spaziano reviewed the list of problem trees and determined that the list was not specific enough to determine the scope of work.
  - Council members discussed concerns about maintenance for trees planted by homeowners as well as aging trees along Township roads.
- **Farm Leases:**
  - The State has verbally agreed to a farm lease on the Lichtman property. The lease start/end dates will coincide with the three year farm lease at Millstone Park which runs from August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>. A final plan and the lease must be submitted to the State for written approval. Upon State approval, the lease will go out to bid.

- The current three year farm lease on the Perrineville Road municipal property expires December 31, 2011.
  - Lease term dates were discussed: August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> versus January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- **Sunday and holiday travel restriction:** A response was received from MVC Chief Administrator Raymond Martinez regarding the Sunday and holiday travel restriction. The restriction will be formally reviewed and possibly revised. The proposal to amend the regulation may take several months and there will be a 60 day public comment period. The Secretary will post the letter to the Ag website and will notify other local agriculture boards about the request to amend the regulation and the public comment period. Mr. Asprocolas and Ms. Butch will forward the letter to members of the Tri-County Co-op.
- **Open Space Clambake:**
- The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Open Space Clambake will be held on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, at Wagner Farm Park from 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm.
  - Over \$4,000 has been donated by sponsors to date. Sponsorships include a donation of \$500 from Halka Nurseries and \$1,000 from Frank and Wicki Hom.
  - Mr. Asprocolas will provide the grill but will not be able to attend due to the start up of a new farm market. Mr. Asprocolas will provide produce including corn, watermelons, lemons and strawberries.

### **New Business**

- **Millstone Day** will be held on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, at Frogbridge Day Camp.

At 8:14 pm, Ms. Halka made a Motion to move to executive session with a Second offered by Mr. Dancer, and all in favor.

At 8:30 pm the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a Motion was made by Ms. Pinhas with a Second offered by Ms. Halka to adjourn the meeting and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher