

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 24, 2008**

At 7:30 PM, Chairwoman Butch called the meeting to order.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Alves, Mr. Blanco, Ms. Butch, Mr. Denardo, Mr. Kuczinski, Ms. Morelli, Mr. Romano, Ms. Siedman, Ms. Schloss, Mr. Wingerter

Absent: Mr. Mullarkey

Public Comment

The public comment portion of the meeting was opened at 7:32 PM. There were several residents in attendance for the Pleasure Pace discussion which Ms. Butch deferred until the Events portion of the meeting. There were no other comments and the public comment portion was closed at 7:33 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wingerter made a motion to approve the November minutes. A second was offered by Mr. Blanco. Mr. Wingerter, Mr. Blanco, Mr. Alves, Ms. Butch, Mr. Denardo, Ms. Morelli, Ms. Schloss, and Ms. Siedman voted to approve the regular session minutes. Mr. Romano and Mr. Kuczinski were not in attendance at the November meeting.

Reorganization

Ms. Butch reviewed the following resolutions:

- **Resolution 08-22** reappointing Mr. Wingerter and Mr. Alves to seats 6 and 7 respectively, for three year terms ending 12/31/10, and reappointing Ms. Schloss as Alternate II for a two year term ending 12/31/09
- **Resolution 08-55** appointing Mr. Kuczinski as Township Committee liaison for a one year term ending 12/31/08
- **Resolution 08-27** reappointing Mr. Wingerter as Monmouth County Agriculture Development Board Representative for 2008
- Ms. Butch clarified that Mr. Blanco will remain the Planning Board liaison to the Council through the end of his Planning Board term which is 12/31/09.
- **Election of Chairperson:** Mr. Wingerter made a motion to nominate Ms. Butch for Chairperson with a second offered by Mr. Denardo; Vote: Ayes (10); Nays (0); by unanimous vote, Ms. Butch was appointed Chairperson.
- **Election of Vice Chairperson:** Mr. Romano made a motion to nominate Mr. Wingerter for Vice Chairperson with a second offered by Mr. Blanco. Vote: Ayes (10), Nays (0); by unanimous vote, Mr. Wingerter is appointed Vice Chairperson.
- **Adoption of 2008 Calendar of Meetings:** After a brief discussion regarding rescheduling the August meeting to Thursday, the 21st, due to the Board on Chosen Freeholders meeting in the municipal meeting room on August 28th, Mr. Romano made a motion to adopt and publish the 2008 calendar of meetings in both official newspapers; a second was offered by Mr. Wingerter and by unanimous vote, the following Calendar of Meetings was adopted:

January 24, 2008	April 24, 2008	July 24, 2008	October 23, 2008
February 28, 2008	May 22, 2008	August 21, 2008	November 20, 2008
March 27, 2008	June 26, 2008	September 25, 2008	December 18, 2008
			January 22, 2009

- **Subcommittee assignments:** Ms. Butch will email 2007 Committee assignments to members for review and appointments will be discussed at the February meeting.

Correspondence

Chairwoman Butch reviewed correspondence as follows:

- **D & R Greenway Land Trust Thank-you Letter** dated 11/29/07; the letter, addressed to Ms. Butch, recognizes Millstone Township for commitment to preservation and partnering with D & R on the Rocky Brook Greenway Project. Ms. Butch discussed the status of the various properties included in the project and the anticipated closings of all properties by early February.
- **Monmouth County Park System Municipal Open Space Grant Program Letter** dated 12/10/07; the letter thanks Millstone for supporting the Perrineville Lake Park and Rocky Brook Greenway projects and cooperating in the development of a trails system.
- **Farmland Preservation News**, Winter 2007 issue was distributed for review.

Old Business

- **Trails**
 - Industrial Park – the trail easement is being prepared by Simon Kaufman and the attorney for Moto Industrial Park.
 - Boss Winds/County Road crossing: Ms. Butch has spoken with Bill O'Shaunessy, the ranger in charge of parks in Millstone Township, regarding the connection of the McFie trail to the Boss Winds trail.
 - Establish which activities are/are not permitted on designated trails: Ms. Butch will bring this to the next Township Committee meeting
- **Baird Road/Waters 40 acres update:** \$25K grant was received by the Millstone Trailblazers in September; this is one of the properties covered under the grant.
- **Lichtman Management Agreement:** Ms. Butch spoke with Renee Jones (of the Green Acres program) and the agreement will be e-mailed to Millstone Township on January 25; the agreement will be in place once the Township signs; the next step will be for the Township to supply a plan to the State for approval.
- **OSFP Bulletin for Spring:** Ms. Schloss provided the following assignment of newsletter articles:
 - Highlighted farm: Hom – Ms. Morelli
 - Race Horse Trainer: Kelvin Harrison – Ms. Schloss
 - Therapy ponies – Ms. Schloss
 - Clambake 2008 – Mr. Wingerter
 - Property closings – Ms. Butch & Ms. Maher
 - Keep It Green – Mr. Wingerter
 - All articles are due by Feb 4th to go to print by Feb 15th

New Business

- **Goals for 2008**
 - Financial Reporting: Mr. Wingerter noted the importance of having complete financial reports and understanding both how the Open Space Trust is funded as well as details of how funds are disbursed.
 - Trails - what's allowed/not allowed on trails: Ms. Butch to provide information at the February council meeting.
 - Stewardship: Mr. Wingerter offered to speak with the County at next Ag Board meeting to see what they use for stewardship and suggested

maintaining digital files which include pictures of the properties. Mr. Wingerter spoke about New Jersey's 12th Annual Land Conservation Rally, which will be held on Saturday, March 8th. The Rally will feature workshops for conservation easements, stewardship and several other programs.

- Scoring and Rating System for farmland and open space: Ms. Butch has requested rating systems utilized by the State, the County and Upper Freehold and will provide information to the Council as it is received.
- **2008 Budget:** Ms. Butch and Mr. Wingerter will work on budgetary needs for 2008 and invited other members to participate in the process; the Secretary will email the 2007 budget and expenditures to the budget committee; this will be the basis for developing the 2008 budget.
- **Pleasure Pace:** Several members of the Millstone Trailblazers organization were in attendance to discuss the event; Ms. Butch opened the floor to comment;
 - Mr. Rob Obusek (101 Millstone Road), president of the Millstone Trailblazers, provided the organization's background information and mission statement; Mr. Obusek explained that the \$25K Trailblazers' grant would be used to clear approximately 10 miles of trail from Wagner Farm Park to Charleston Springs; He noted that in addition to clearing a trail long enough to host an event, there is a substantial amount of work required to prepare for an event and turned the floor over to Ms. Ginolfi for further discussion.
 - Ms. Audrey Ginolfi (145 Baird Road) informed the Council that she has been researching event requirements such as special event permits, insurance coverage, health department permits, corporate and business sponsors, police presence and necessary facilities. Ms. Ginolfi provided an estimated scheduling date of fall 2009 due to the time required to prepare the trail and coordinate the event.
 - Mr. Obusek and Ms. Ginolfi answered questions from the Council regarding similar events in other communities and states and how the Trailblazers raise money for clearing trails. Ms. Butch introduced Ms. Lorraine Davis, the Chairperson for the \$25K Trailblazers grant.
 - Mr. Wingerter made a motion to sponsor a Pleasure Pace event in conjunction with the Trailblazers and the HAMT; a second was offered by Mr. Romano with all in favor. Ms. Ginolfi agreed to chair the Pleasure Pace Committee and Ms. Butch, Mr. Wingerter, Mr. Blanco and Ms. Morelli agreed to join the committee.
 - Any profit from the Pleasure Pace event will be used to clear, mark and maintain trails in Millstone Township
 - Mr. Kuczinski will research how to manage the money collected and expended with the CFO and the Auditor.
- **Farm Conservation Plan Seminar:** The seminar has been rescheduled for February 28th at 7:00 PM; Ms. Butch explained that all preserved farms are required to have a conservation plan. The NRCS will assist any farmer with the creation of a plan free of charge. The February OSFP Council meeting will be held immediately following the seminar.
- **Bond Ordinance:** The following bond ordinances were introduced at the January 16, 2008, Township Committee meeting with a second reading to take place at the February 20, 2008, Township Committee meeting:
 - No. 08-04 (Boyken property & Boyken trail, Kenney and Nurko)
 - No. 08-05 (Lee)
 - No. 08-06 (Wong)
 - No. 08-07 (Hom)
 - No. 08-08 (Resolution of areas of confusion on Block 46, Lot 4.01)

Events

- **Clambake:** Mr. Wingerter confirmed that the Clarksburg Inn is available on June 1st and June 8th. The Council agreed to set Sunday, June 8th, as the date for the clambake. The discussion included having two separate seating times to reduce congestion, utilizing the indoor eating area and activities for children; the Secretary will check the community calendar to ensure there are no conflicts with other events.
- **Millstone Day:** MS. Siedman volunteered to chair Millstone Day; the Secretary will notify the Council when a date is set for the event.

Committee Reports:

- **Finance:**
 - Council members received the detailed 2007 Open Space Trust financial report; Mr. Kuczinski will review the report and discussion will take place at the February meeting.
- **Preservation Signage:** Ms. Butch will coordinate with Ken Gann/DPW on signage for Green Acres.
- **Legislative Awareness:**
 - Funding for preservation on November ballot
 - Horse racing industry: Mr. Romano provided an update on the status of supplemental funding for the horse racing industry.
- **Stewardship:** Progress has been made with the Detwiller/Green Acres easement but there are still open issues that need to be resolved.
- **Agricultural Advisory Council:** Mr. Romano provided information regarding the Ag Advisory Council's goals for 2008 which include establishing a local Open Farm Market, compliance with the Dept of Agriculture's manure removal program and the creation of a large animal OEM plan in Millstone.
- **Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications:**
 - Horzepa – trail is on preliminary plan; final plan is not yet complete
 - Tracy Morgan – has been pushed to April
 - Garden Center on Burnt Tavern Road – has agreed to a trail on preliminary plan

At 8:56 PM a Motion was made by Mr. Wingerter to move to Executive Session with a Second offered by Mr. Blanco and by unanimous vote the Council moved to Executive Session.

At 9:55 PM the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a Motion was made by Mr. Wingerter and with a Second offered by Mr. Kuczinski and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher