

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 18, 2008**

At 7:50 PM, Ms. Butch called the meeting to order.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: Blanco, Butch, Denardo, Kau, Kuczinski, Romano, Schloss, Siedman

Absent: Alves, Morelli

Public Comment

The public comment portion of the meeting was opened at 7:51 PM and with no public in attendance was closed at 7:51 PM.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Siedman with a second offered by Mr. Denardo to approve the November 20, 2008, minutes. Roll call vote: Ayes: (5) Siedman, Denardo, Blanco, Butch, Kuczinski; Nays: (0)

Correspondence

- ❖ **SADC/Susan Craft, dated November 24, 2008**, RE: Notice of Extension of Delayed Operative Date of N.J.A.C. 2:76-23.6(a)10 Special Permit for Installation of Personal Wireless Service Facility on Preserved Farmland

Old Business

❖ **Trails**

- **Industrial Park:** no progress to report
- **County Road crossing on Agress Road:** Ordinance 08-32 was adopted 12/3/08; Township Engineer, Matt Shafai, sent the plan to DoT for final approval; upon approval, the road will be striped and signs installed and the 2 sides of the county park will be officially joined; negotiations are underway between the Township and the County to share the work; the Township would like the County to stripe the roadway and the Township would install all necessary signs
- **Permitted uses on existing deeded easement trails:** nothing new to report
- **\$25K Recreational Trail Grant:** Ms. Butch provided an update on the trail clearing progress; the Shield Rd/Reid Rd trail clearing is 90% complete; 2 property owners may have encroached on the open space area: one area contained a manure pile and another area was landscaped; Ms. Butch will work with Township Zoning Officer, Pat Hynes, to resolve encroachment issues
- **Wagner Trail:** Mayor Grbelja, Ms. Butch and members of the Trailblazers walked the trail with concerned residents; with the exception of one resident, all concerns have been satisfied; options to satisfy the final concern include contacting the landowner to determine if there is interest in the sale of a small portion of the land adjacent to the trail or installation of a secondary fence to prevent people and horses from coming in contact with the emus; the TC has granted permission to stake out the trail boundaries

❖ **Appointments for 2009**

- Ms. Butch has provided reappointment information to the TC

- The preference is to fill the vacant Council seat with someone from the farming community
- The person who fills the vacant seat will also be the representative to the Monmouth County Agriculture Development Board
- ❖ **COAH Open Meeting, December 10, 2008, at Wagner Park**
 - The Planning Board delayed voting on the COAH plan at the December 10th meeting
 - A special Planning Board meeting was held on Tuesday, December 16th, and the Board voted to pass the COAH plan
 - The plan was also passed by the TC at the December 17th TC meeting

New Business

- ❖ **13th Annual New Jersey Land Conservation Rally**
 - Saturday, March 7, 2009
 - Potential attendees include Ms. Butch, Mr. Blanco, Mr. Romano, Ms. Schloss and Ms. Siedman

Events

- ❖ **Possible Open House at Remarkable Sites**
 - Ms. Schloss provided information regarding the Hightstown House Tour which was sponsored by the town's historical society
 - Potential date for the event would be fall of 2010 due to the planned Pleasure Pace event in fall of 2009
 - The tour would consist of approximately 6 or 7 houses
 - Solicitations can be handled through Council member contacts, realtors and interiors decorators
 - Tickets can be sold at Millstone Day and through the Council Secretary, similar to the Clambake ticket sales
 - Tickets usually range from \$20 to \$25
 - The event would run from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
 - Parking may be an issue
 - Usually requires 4 volunteers per house to oversee event and point out objects of interest
 - The majority of expense would be for advertising
 - Funds can be raised through the sale of advertising space in a house tour brochure
 - Solicit florists for donated flowers and centerpieces
 - The Hightstown tour also included antiques cars on display in front of each house
- ❖ **Pleasure Pace**
 - The Trailblazers will be requesting approval of a date from the Township Committee
 - Tentative dates include 9/29/09 or 9/30/09
 - Funds that are raised will be used for clearing and marking trails
 - There will be a fee for riding the trail
 - 2 or 3 members to a team with no more than 50 teams
 - The event will start across from Wagner Farm Park through to Charleston Springs with a specified return route
- ❖ **Clambake 2009**
 - Mr. Wingerter has agreed to be in charge of food for the event
 - A date needs to be determined that will be suitable for both Mr. Wingerter and the Council
 - A motion was made by Mr. Denardo with a second offered by Mr. Kuczinski and all in favor to move forward with the planning of the third annual Clambake fundraiser
- ❖ **Millstone Day 2009**

- Mr. Wingerter will contact Mr. Daube regarding use of the mechanical bull for the day
- Mr. Kuczinski offered to sponsor the money booth for Millstone Day 2009

Committee Reports

❖ **Finance**

- **Open Space Trust:** Account activity for January through November 2008 was distributed for Council review; Mr. Kuczinski will meet with Ms. D'Andrea regarding any necessary adjustments to the trust account activity
- **Operating budget:** Mr. Kuczinski informed the Council that once the budget is approved, line item allocations can be adjusted to suit the Council's needs

❖ **Preservation Signage**

- Nothing to report

❖ **Public Relations/Publications - Fall Edition of the Newsletter**

- The newsletter is a joint effort between the OSFP and Ag Councils now that the Ag Council will be funding half the expense
- The next issue is scheduled to go out with the annual Township mailing in March of 2009
- Potential articles include the Boyken and Kenney closings, the farm market opening in mid-May, Lee property/recreation committee updates and manure management legislation and approved vendors

❖ **Legislative Awareness**

- The Department of Agriculture is looking for a new Secretary to replace Charles Kuperus, whose resignation is effective 12/31/08

❖ **Stewardship**

- Ms. Siedman explained that few properties have been photographed since the last meeting due to inclement weather
- 16 land properties have been photographed to date
- In addition to the construction debris at the Gravatt Circle open space, leaf and tree brush has been dumped on the property; there are no "No Dumping" signs posted
- Ms. Siedman will contact the Township Zoning Officer regarding the debris on the open space property
- Ms. Butch explained that as the Trailblazers clear trails, they will take pictures for stewardship purposes

❖ **Watershed Committee:** The Committee hasn't met yet; nothing to report

❖ **Recreation Planning Committee:** The Committee was scheduled to walk the property on Sunday, November 23rd, but the walk was postponed due to inclement weather

❖ **Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications**

- D. Morgan Tracey/353 Sweetman's Lane, LLC: nothing to report
- CKV Realty/Burnt Tavern Road: nothing to report
- St Joseph's Church/Stillhouse Road: passed by the Planning Board but has not been memorialized
- Perl Acres North & South: one year extension has been granted

At 8:45 PM, a motion was made by Mr. Romano with a second offered by Mr. Denardo and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 9:42 PM, the Council returned to regular session and having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Siedman with a second offered by Mr. Kuczinski and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher