

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 25, 2009**

At 7:44 pm, Ms. Butch called the meeting to order.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: (6) Butch, Kau, Kuczinski, Romano, Schloss, Siedman

Absent: (5) Alves, Asprocolas, Blanco, Denardo, Morelli

Public Comment

The public comment portion of the meeting was opened at 7:45 pm and with no public comment was closed at 7:45 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Ms. Siedman to approve the May 28, 2009, minutes. Roll call vote:

Ayes (4) Kau, Siedman, Butch, Schloss

Nays (0)

Correspondence/News Releases

- **TD Bank dated 6/18/09:** Approving Clambake sponsorship donation of \$500.00.
- **Susan Craft/SADC dated 6/16/09:** Final approval of the Millstone Township 2009A Municipal Planning Incentive Grant application was granted on 4/24/09.
- **Susan Craft/SADC dated 6/15/09:** Funds have been received for all 2001A PIG program properties with the exception of the Buono property because the Deed of Easement was not written according to SADC standards.

Old Business

- **Trails**
 - **Industrial Park:** Nothing new to report.
 - **County Road crossing on Agress Road:** Nothing to report.
 - **Permitted uses on existing deeded trail easements:** Nothing to report.
- **Trail Grant Work**
 - Grant work is progressing on the orchard buffer trail located off of Perrineville Road.
- **Impact of Inclusionary Element on COAH Objection**
 - The residents who wrote the objection are asking the Township to satisfy 50% of the COAH obligation by using the rural preservation (RU-P) zone for inclusionary housing.
 - Almost all potential preservation properties lie in the RU-P zone.
 - No properties in the RU-P zone can be preserved until the COAH obligation is satisfied.
 - Once a subdivision is approved in the RU-P zone, the decision cannot be reversed.
 - Many people don't understand the ramifications of the inclusionary element.

- Ms. Butch suggested that the Council send a letter to the Township Committee, voicing opposition to the inclusionary element and explaining the impact on land preservation for use in the mediation process.
- The objection needs to be addressed to protect land preservation programs and the open space agenda; the inclusionary zoning concept will not be to the benefit of the Township's preservation program and the Council opposes this plan.

Mr. Romano made a motion to write a letter to the Township Committee stating opposition to the inclusionary element on COAH objection and explaining the impact on Open Space and Farmland Preservation within the Township. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kau.

Roll call vote:

Ayes (6): Romano, Kau, Butch, Kuczinski, Schloss, Siedman.

Nays (0)

New Business

➤ **SADC Trail Subcommittee:**

- Ms. Butch attended an SADC trail subcommittee meeting in Trenton this past week.
- Green Acres and the SADC are looking at applications that have both farmland and trail components and are looking for a way to write deeds that will incorporate the two uses on a property in a friendly way.
- The Subcommittee took testimony.
- More information will be available next month.

Events

➤ **Possible Open House at Remarkable Sites:** Nothing to report.

➤ **Clambake 2009**

- A financial report detailing sponsorships, ticket sales and expenses was reviewed.
- The fundraiser was a success with \$8,625.00 in sponsorships and donations, which includes the \$500.00 commitment from TD Bank (check should be received within two or three weeks) and a \$25.00 donation check that Ms. Butch presented to the Secretary (from Mr. Frost).
- Sponsor and volunteer thank you letters have been mailed.

➤ **Millstone Day 2009**

- Scheduled for Sunday, September 13th, at Frogbridge Day Camp from noon to 5 pm.
- The money booth and bull ride attractions were discussed.
- The Council will not have the mechanical bull ride this year because the Township will not be able to acquire the necessary insurance rider unless the ride is registered with the State; the bull ride is currently not registered.
- The money booth is a lot of work and requires a minimum of 4 people to operate at all times and requires additional volunteers during busy times; it will be kept on reserve until a decision is reached regarding fundraiser attractions; The solicitation letter that has been sent to businesses in the past was specific to the money booth; the letter will be updated to be more generic to solicit donations without a specific explanation regarding how they will be distributed.
- Frogbridge has offered to rent inflatable attractions to the Recreation Commission; the Recreation Commission hasn't made a decision yet regarding renting the inflatables; Ms. Siedman will contact Mr. Pugliese

regarding the Open Space Council renting an inflatable attraction for fundraising purposes. Ms Siedman will also confirm whether Frogbridge employees or Council volunteers will be responsible for operating the inflatable attractions.

- Ms. Schloss suggested a “cake walk” as an alternate fundraiser; there would be a fee to participate and donated baked goods would be distributed as prizes.

➤ **Pleasure Pace**

- Scheduled for Sunday, September 27th.
- The committee is working on confirming the return route.
- The start time will be 8 am or 9 am with staggered starts; Ms. Butch will confirm the actual start time.
- The ride will begin under the high tension wires across from Wagner Farm Park and will go south of Baird Road. The ride will not go through Wagner Farm Park.

Committee Reports

- **Finance/Open Space Trust:** The Open Space Trust account activity through May was distributed for review.
- **Preservation Signage:** Nothing to report.
- **Public Relations/Publications:** A summer edition of the newsletter will not be distributed; the next distribution of the newsletter is planned for Fall 2009.
- **Legislative Awareness:** There may be an Open Space Tax referendum question on November’s ballot; there seems to be support in the legislature but it has not been voted on yet.
- **Stewardship:** Discussion deferred to executive session.
- **Watershed Committee Liaison:** A meeting has not been held; nothing to report.
- **Recreation Planning Committee:**
 - The Committee did not meet in June; it is scheduled to meet in July; Ms. Butch will contact Mr. Fiore regarding the meeting date.
 - Ms. Butch, Ms. Spaziano and Mr. Shafai will be working on grants; input from both the Recreation Planning Committee and the Township Committee is required to determine the appropriate projects for grant application.
- **Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications**
 - D. Morgan Tracey/353 Sweetmans Lane, LLC: anticipated to be heard by the BoA in August.
 - CKV Realty (Garden Center) Burnt Tavern Road: still not scheduled.
 - Shelly’s School for Dogs will be heard by the BoA in July; Mr. Leibowitz is receptive to the idea of preserving the blueberry farm in the conservation easement; Mr. Leibowitz is also willing to work with the Township OEM to open the facility as an emergency animal shelter.

At 8:41 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Mr. Kuczinski and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 9:32 pm, the Council returned to regular session. Council discussion regarding Millstone Day activities continued. Mr. Romano suggested asking Miss New Jersey, who is a resident of Millstone, to appear at the Open Space Council information booth at Millstone Day. Ms. Butch suggested having children sign a big thank-you poster for the owners of Frogbridge, who donate the use of the facility to the Township for the day. A motion was made by Ms. Schloss with a second offered by Ms. Siedman and all in favor to present Mr. Pugliese with a big thank you poster, which will be signed by Millstone Day attendees.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Mr. Kuczinski and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher