

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP  
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 22, 2009**

Ms. Butch called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

**Roll Call**

Present: (6) Blanco, Butch, Denardo, Kuczinski, Schloss (7:36 pm), Siedman

Absent: (6) Alves, Asprocolas, Kau, Morelli, Romano

**Public Comment**

The public comment portion of the meeting was opened at 7:31 pm and with no public in attendance was closed at 7:31 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Blanco with a second offered by Mr. Denardo to approve the September 27, 2009, minutes. Roll call vote:

Ayes (4) Blanco, Denardo, Butch, Siedman

Nays (0)

**Correspondence**

- **Monmouth County Park System** dated 10/13/09 re: Municipal Open Space Grant Program; the letter states that the application has been received and it has been deemed administratively complete.
- **State of New Jersey DEP Green Acres Program** dated 10/2/09 re: Millstone Planning Incentive – Project Evergreen; the letter requests the Township to submit all paperwork and adopt an enabling resolution in order to receive the \$500,000 matching grant from Green Acres; Resolution 09-173 was adopted at the 10/21/09 Township Committee meeting; the resolution was sent via email to all Council members on 10/22/09; Ms. Butch provided an estimate of approximately three months to obtain the funds.

**Old Business**

- **Trails**
  - **Industrial Park:** Nothing new to report.
- **Trail Grant Work** will resume at the end of fall/beginning of winter.
- **Farm Leases on Township-owned Open Space**
  - The Township will be preparing lease bids for the former Lee property for the new term to begin on 7/1/10.
- **Capital-to-Coast Bike Trail:** Nothing new to report.
- **Hand-held GPS for Stewardship**
  - Mr. Denardo spoke with Township engineering inspector, Dan Specht, regarding accuracy of GPS units and provided the following information:
    - GPS devices are only accurate from 3 to 5 meters.
    - The GPS device would only be able to provide a ballpark estimate and would not be accurate enough to determine the exact boundaries, especially for trails that are only 15 feet wide.

- All marked property lines have a steel pin monument; a metal detector can be used to find the pin.
- A GPS unit will cost at least \$2,000 and will require training because the units are not user-friendly; additionally, a software program, program updates and warranties may need to be purchased.
- The Avakian engineers and inspectors use a GPS that cost approximately \$4,000, which has the capability of downloading aerial pictures.
- The GPS might not work in wooded areas since it needs to send a signal to a satellite.
- Ms. Butch suggested discussing the use of a GPS device at the stewardship meeting that is scheduled for Monday, October 26.
- Council members agreed that further discussion regarding the purchase of a GPS device for stewardship purposes is required.

## **New Business**

- **Council Member Terms Expiring on 12/31/09**
  - Ms. Butch, Mr. Kau and Mr. Romano are regular Council members that have terms expiring on 12/31/09; Ms. Butch will speak with both Mr. Kau and Mr. Romano regarding their interest in reappointments; Ms. Butch acknowledged interest in a reappointment.
  - Mr. Blanco's term is expiring on 12/31/09 in conjunction with his Planning Board term.
  - Ms. Butch will write a letter to the Township Committee regarding Council Members' interest in reappointment and will submit the attendance record with the recommendation for reappointments.

## **Events**

- **Possible Open House at Remarkable Sites:** Ms. Schloss is looking to accumulate a list of at least 15 potential houses and asked that Council members solicit friends for potential sites; possible sites were discussed including the church and cemetery, on Stage Coach Road, that are owned by the Township; houses must have adequate available parking.
- **Pleasure Pace:** The ride was cancelled due to inclement weather.
- **Clambake 2010:**
  - Mr. Wingerter informed Ms. Siedman that he cannot chair the clambake in 2010 due to other commitments.
  - Council members agreed that the clambake could be held without Mr. Wingerter chairing the event.
  - Mr. Denardo offered to contact Mr. Wingerter regarding the quantity of food and supplies purchased in the past.
  - Wagner Farm Park was discussed as a potential location for the clambake; Mr. Denardo and Mr. Kuczinski will check the kitchen at Wagner Farm Park to determine what kitchen and cooking supplies are available. Mr. Kuczinski will look into the possibility of serving alcohol beverages at the clambake if it is held at Wagner Farm Park.
  - The Secretary will discuss the necessity of obtaining three bids for the purchase of lobsters with the Clerk.

## **Committee Reports**

- **Finance/Open Space Trust:** The Open Space Trust account activity through September was distributed for review; no discussion.

- **Preservation Signage**
  - The State has taken over the “Preserved Farmland” signage.
  - The Township is responsible for posting “Green Acres” signs and the former Lee property has been posted.
- **Public Relations/Publications**
  - The Fall 2009 Open Space newsletter is scheduled to be mailed Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - The newsletter was emailed on 10/15/09 to all Council members for review prior to printing.
- **Legislative Awareness:** Discussion deferred to next month due to the upcoming election.
- **Stewardship:** A stewardship meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.
- **Watershed Committee Liaison:** A meeting has not been held; nothing to report.
- **Recreation Planning Committee:** The committee hasn’t met; nothing to report.
- **Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications:** Nothing to report.

### **Next Meeting**

- Ms. Butch reminded Council members that the November and December meetings will be held on the third Thursday of the month due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

At 8:19 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Denardo with a second offered by Ms. Schloss and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 9:03 pm, the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Schloss with a second offered by Mr. Blanco and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher