

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP  
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 27, 2010**

Ms. Butch called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

**Roll Call**

Present: (7) Blanco, Butch, Denardo, Kau, Romano, Schloss (arrived at 7:39 pm), Siedman  
Absent: (3) Asprocolas, Kuczinski, Morelli

**Public Comment:** Ms. Butch opened the public comment portion of the meeting at 7:32 pm. Ms. Suzanne O'Donnell (318 Sweetman's Lane, Millstone Township) explained that she is interested in purchasing a property in town and asked the Council about the possibility of farmland preservation in conjunction with the purchase. Ms. Butch elaborated that the property is the 53 acre Hill House Farm on Baird Road and that the property is on the targeted farm list. Ms. Butch explained that there is limited funding available and current State funding has already been allocated for another project. The funding from the 2009 referendum has not been allocated yet and it is unknown at this time if Millstone will be receiving any of the funding. Ms. Butch asked Ms. O'Donnell if she has spoken with anyone from the County regarding preservation. Ms. O'Donnell replied that she had spoken with Ms. Brockwell, of the Monmouth County Agriculture Development Board, a couple of years ago. Ms. Butch will contact Ms. Brockwell and mentioned that the Council would like to have a list of potential preservation properties when funding becomes available. There is an issue with the dump site on the Hill House Farm property. The previous owner had received a Conditional No Further Action letter but Ms. Butch does not know if the conditions stated in the letter have been met. Ms. O'Donnell stated that she has spoken with the DEP and they informed her that the conditions in the NFA letter have been met. Ms. Butch suggested that Ms. O'Donnell request a copy of the Conditional NFA letter from the bank that owns the property and check on the status of the conditions set forth in the letter. Ms. Butch explained that the conditions must be met to the satisfaction of the Township and that she does not know how difficult it would be to preserve a property with dump site issues. Ms. Butch explained that the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council recommends properties for preservation but the decision to preserve a property ultimately lies with the Township Committee. Ms. Butch offered to contact the County regarding programs, other than the Municipal PIG, that might be available for preservation. Ms. Butch clarified that the current property owner must go through the preservation process with the contract purchaser. This was done with the Valerio/Halka and Top Step preservations. The preservations were done at the same time as the closings. Ms. O'Donnell thanked the Council and the public comment portion of the meeting was closed at 7:42 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Mr. Romano to approve the April 22, 2010, minutes. Roll call vote:

Ayes (5) Kau, Romano, Blanco, Butch, Siedman  
Nays (0)

**Correspondence**

- **From NJ DEP Green Acres dated April 2010 re: County and Municipal Green Acres Projects:** Ms. Butch explained that Millstone is currently in compliance with all Green Acres project requirements.

- **From NJ Dept of Agriculture dated 5/5/10 re: 2011 Municipal PIG Grant:** Millstone has completed requirements to be an approved Municipal PIG municipality; Ms. Butch explained that Millstone is one of only 2 municipalities in Monmouth County that has been approved for the Municipal PIG Grant.
- **To Catherine Drake (NJ DEP Green Acres) dated 5/12/10 re: Millstone Township Incentive – Project Evergreen, Amendments to Green Acres Project Agreement:** All required documents have been received by the Green Acres Program.
- **Monmouth County Greentable:** Watchable Wildlife, June 17, 2010; there is no cost to attend the workshop.

## Old Business

- **Trails**
  - **Industrial Park:** Nothing new to report.
- **Trail Grant Work:** Trail grant work is progressing; Ms. Butch is working with Steve Morelli to order markers; Trailblazers will install markers; Ms. Butch will contact DPW regarding 2 trails that need to be mowed; mowing is required about 3 or 4 times a year to maintain the trail; paperwork will be submitted for labor and materials as required to obtain the grant funds.
- **Farm Leases on Township-owned Open Space:** There is an erosion problem on the leased property on Perrineville Road which is creating a water problem on neighboring properties; the farm lease may need to be restructured; this issue will be forwarded on to the Ag Council.
- **Capital to the Coast Bike Trail:** There was a meeting but Ms. Butch was unable to attend; Ms. Butch spoke with Mr. Lockenmeyer and explained that Millstone does not want an asphalt bike trail on any roads through town because the right-of-ways are too narrow. Ms. Butch told Mr. Lockenmeyer that the best Millstone can offer is off-road trails for mountain biking on natural terrain pathways.
- **Hand-held GPS for Stewardship:** Nothing new to report.
- **Determine which open space surveys will be done in 2010:** If Millstone receives the next trail grant, which will be for trails on Backbone Hill Road, Ms. Butch suggested having that property surveyed; Mr. Romano explained that there are metal property markers available that can be placed underground; Ms. Butch asked Mr. Romano to forward the information about the underground markers to the Council via email with a copy to the Secretary.

## New Business

- **Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan (CFPP):** The plan that was adopted by the Planning Board on April 8, 2008, has been printed; an electronic version has been posted on the website; hardcopies are available to Council members from the Secretary; the plan should be updated every year however, the plan has not been updated because there haven't been any farms preserved since the plan was adopted.

**Committee Reports:** All committee reports tabled to allow for detailed Clambake discussion.

## Events

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

- **Millstone Day 2010: Sunday, September 19, 2010, at Frogbridge Day Camp**
  - Ms. Butch informed the Council that Ag Council member, Tom Dancer, has offered to display his restored tractors; Ms. Schloss suggested having some ride-on toy tractors as an activity for children; Ms. Butch will ask Mr. Dancer if he can provide one tractor to be used for picture taking.
- **Clambake 2010: Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 – 5:30 pm at Wagner Farm Park**
  - *Sponsorships:* \$4,900 in sponsorships and donations have been received, which includes a \$200 check from 33 West Salon which Ms. Siedman presented to the Secretary at the meeting.
  - *Ticket sales:* Currently there have been 74 tickets sold, reserved, and provided to sponsors and volunteers consisting of 62 adults and 12 children; last year 60% of ticket sales occurred the week prior to the event; a suggestion was made to sell tickets at the Memorial Day Parade; Ms. Butch will be available to sell tickets at the municipal building on Memorial Day.
  - *Food Purchases:* The Municipal Clerk's office will obtain quotes for the seafood purchase based on the quantities provided by the Council; The seafood will be delivered to Wagner Farm Park; Ms. Butch and Mr. Denardo will coordinate the Sam's Club shopping with the Municipal Purchasing Agent, Maria Dellasala; the Secretary will check Ms. Dellasala's availability for Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>; the Secretary will compile the information from last year's Sam's Club purchase into a spreadsheet and will distribute to Council members via email.
  - *Kitchen Supplies and Cooking Utensils:* Mr. Asprocolas informed the Secretary that he has the grill ready to go; Ms. Schloss will update the Sam's Club spreadsheet with a list of necessary kitchen and cooking supplies and utensils; Mr. Denardo will begin collecting kitchen supplies on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - *Tables/Chairs:* The DPW will transport tables from the Community Center to Wagner on Friday and will return the tables on Monday morning; there is a sufficient amount of folding chairs already at Wagner; Council members will meet at Wagner on Saturday to set up for the event; a roll of white plastic will be used to cover the tables.
  - Mr. Denardo will reach out to Mr. Wingerter with a list of questions about the clambake.
  - *Volunteers:* The volunteer list was reviewed and updated.
  - *Posters:* The Secretary will order the posters for the sponsors.

At 9:24 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Ms. Schloss and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 9:45 pm, the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Blanco with a second offered by Mr. Romano and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher