

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 24, 2010

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

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: (7) Asprocolas, Butch, Denardo, Kau, Kuczinski (arrived 7:34 pm), Morelli, Siedman
Absent: (3) Blanco, Romano, Schloss

Public Comment: Ms. Butch opened the meeting to public comment at 7:31 pm and having no one step forward, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed at 7:31 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Ms. Siedman to approve the May 27, 2010, minutes. Roll call vote:

Ayes (4) Kau, Siedman, Butch, Denardo

Nays (0)

Correspondence

- ***Monmouth County Planning Board dated May 4, 2010, re: Countywide Wastewater Management Plan (WMP)*** – The Monmouth County Planning Board has requested that every municipality in the County adopt a riparian buffer ordinance to protect stream corridors; there are different buffer categories for different types of streams; the Township introduced an ordinance, based on a model ordinance prepared by the NJ DEP, at the June 2nd TC meeting; Ms. Butch contacted the Farm Bureau, the MCADB and the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association and has determined that the ordinance doesn't include any protection for farmers; Ms. Butch read the list of suggested language for exceptions that was sent to attorney Duane Davison for inclusion in the ordinance:
 - Commercial farming practices including but not limited to crop rotation, irrigation, fields currently farmed with tile drains, or any other farming best management practices consistent with Millstone's Right-to-Farm Ordinance.
 - The ability to repair damage caused by flooding.
 - The current version of the ordinance specifies an exception for pedestrian trails; suggested language is an exception for "multi-use" trails.
 - Woodland preserves, excluding enclosed structures, implemented under a management agreement to be permitted.
 - Unpaved, winding, pervious hiking trails.
 - Access for fishing, boating, swimming, hunting (excluding permanent structures such as docks, ramps or piers except if such structures are open to the public).
 - Structures necessary for drafting of water for fire fighting purposes.
 - Reconstruction of a structure that pre-dates the adoption of this ordinance provided the reconstruction does not have a greater footprint or total area than that of the damaged structure and that no change in land use occurs.

- Restoration or stabilization of riparian areas provided that where disturbance is more than one-quarter acre, such activities are done under a Stream Corridor Management Plan.
- Planting of indigenous riparian species as defined from time to time on a list maintained by Millstone's Environmental Commission.
- Removal of invasive species identified as "reported invasive" in New Jersey on the Plant Conservation Alliance Alien Plant Working Group's list of invasive plants or as defined by Millstone's Environmental Commission.

According to the Green Acres Program, Millstone is responsible for writing its own exceptions to the ordinance.

Old Business

- **Trails**
 - **Industrial Park:** Required maintenance will be done by Trailblazers.
- **Trail Grant Work:** Ms. Butch is compiling a list of expenses associated with the \$25K 2008 recreational trail grant; the list will include supplies purchased for marking the trails as well as a list of paid and in-kind labor and machine usage.
- **Farm Leases on Township-owned Open Space:** Repair work is necessary on Perrineville Road where erosion occurred; the lease terms should be reviewed prior to lease renewal.
- **Capital to the Coast Bike Trail:** Ms. Butch will be putting a meeting together; representatives from the Environmental Commission, Assunpink WMA and the County will be invited to discuss the feasibility of a trail from Roosevelt thru the Township; Township Engineer, Mr. Shafai, has concerns about a bike trail due to the limited rights of way on roadways thru town.
- **Hand-held GPS for Stewardship:** Nothing new to report.
- **Determine which open space surveys will be done in 2010:** Ms. Butch suggested the Fairplay Road trail connection between the Orchards Trail and Perrineville Lake Park; Ms. Butch asked Council members for other suggestions.
- **Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan:** Nothing new to report.

New Business

- **Ordinance 10-18, Riparian Zone Ordinance:** Discussed under correspondence.

Events

- **Possible Open House at Remarkable Sites:** Discussion tabled due to Ms. Schloss's absence.
- **Clambake 2010:** Council members reviewed and discussed the financial report; Ms. Butch will forward a list of items needed for next year's event and quantities used and leftover items that were not sold at the end of the event; it was agreed that expenses were high because 1) some items were purchased in quantities greater than needed and 2) some sponsor tickets were no-shows. Mr. Kuczinski will look into the possibility of permitting alcohol beverages at next year's event.
- **Millstone Day: Sunday, September 19, 2010, at Frogbridge Day Camp:**
 - Ag Council member, Mr. Dancer, offered to display his restored tractors; he also agreed to have one tractor that can be used for picture taking.

- Last month, Ms. Schloss suggested having some ride-on tractor toys for children to play on.
- Mr. Asprocolas agreed to provide apples to give away again this year.
- Council members will also have a display board and will give out candy.
- The Secretary will create a schedule for Council members to sign up for manning the information table and tractor display.

Committee Reports

Finance

- ***Grant Work:*** Survey work was completed by Avakian and some of the clearing has been done by DPW; Ms. Butch asked Mr. Kuczinski if the Open Space Trust could be used for purchasing necessary items for marking the trail; when the \$25K grant is received, the OS Trust will be reimbursed; Mr. Kuczinski agreed; Ms. Butch will provide the Secretary with a list of items to purchase.

Preservation Signage: Nothing to report.

Public Relations/Publications: Nothing to report.

Legislative Awareness: Council members discussed pending legislation that would reduce the perimeter for bow hunting from 450 feet to 150 feet of an occupied structure; Mr. Asprocolas explained the problems farmers face including destruction of crops caused by deer and the inability to hunt deer on his own farm due to the proximity to other homes; Council members agreed that alternatives are needed to correct the deer problem; Mr. Kuczinski explained that the TC is in favor of the greater perimeter for safety reasons and reducing the perimeter is not worth the risk of someone being harmed, as accidents can happen.

Stewardship: Nothing to report.

Watershed Committee Liaison: The Committee has not met.

Recreation Planning Committee Liaison: Ms. Butch explained that the Committee is starting to move forward with the plans; Ms. Butch is compiling maps.

Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications

- CKV Realty (Garden Center) Burnt Tavern Road: Nothing new.
- Huneke: an application will be coming to the Planning Board for a subdivision; a trail will be requested.

At 8:26 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Mr. Asprocolas and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 9:00 pm, the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kau with a second offered by Ms. Siedman and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher