

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, May 26, 2016
215 Millstone Road, Millstone Twp, NJ 08535

Ms. Schloss called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: (8) Bailey, Butch, Denardo, Grbelja, Kozak, Marra, Morelli, Schloss

Absent: (3) Asprocolas, Lenzo, Siedman

Public Comment Session: Opened and closed at 7:33 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion to approve the March 24, 2016, minutes was made by Mr. Denardo with a Second offered by Mr. Marra. Roll call vote:

AYES: (7) Denardo, Marra, Bailey, Butch, Kozak, Morelli, Schloss

NAYS: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Correspondence

- Monmouth County Park System, dated 5/10/16, re: Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant Program - 2016 Funding Available. The letter along with a list of Frequently Asked Questions was distributed for review. The application deadline is 9/14/16. No discussion.

Old Business

- **Preservation Updates:** No discussion.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #12-04, Baird Homestead Development Project:** There were no updates provided at the meeting.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #14-12 - Millstone Park Phase 1 Development:** Mr. Denardo explained that the project will be going out to bid and he will be able to provide more information at the next meeting.
- **Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant #15-03 Historic ME Church:** The project is just getting started.
- **Landowner Meet & Greet:** Thank you letters have been sent to landowners who attended the event. Copies of the letters were provided to C/Grbelja.
- **Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA):** Notification regarding closed session has been sent to the Council's official newspapers. A resolution has been prepared and will be read prior to moving to closed session. While the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Council is an advisory council, it is subject to the Open Public Meetings Act per Ordinance No. 02-24. The OPMA prohibits Council members from conducting business via email however, members can "reply all" to emails regarding attendance and other non business-related communications.

New Business: There was no new business presented at the meeting.

Events

- The **Clambake** will be held on Sunday, June 12th, at Wagner Farm Park. Sponsorships and ticket sales are on par with last year's event. The seafood order will be placed on

June 3rd. Mr. Denardo will accept the seafood order on Saturday, June 11th. Mr. Asprocolas will provide the produce and his grill. Mr. Denardo, Ms. Schloss, Ms. Dellasala and the Secretary will do the Sam's Club shopping on Friday, June 10th.

- **Millstone Day** will be held on Sunday, September 18, at Frogbridge Day Camp. Details will be discussed at a future meeting.

Committee Reports

- **Finance:** No discussion.
- **Public Relations/Publications:** No discussion.
- **Legislative Awareness**
 - The open space funding bill has been conditionally vetoed by the Governor. The Governor wants to use open space funds to pay DEP employee salaries which will impact funding available for land acquisitions. A two-thirds majority is needed in the legislature to override the Governor's veto. C/Grbelja reported that the Township currently has about \$770,000 in its municipal PIG fund for farmland preservation and \$540,000 in Green Acres funding available. If the Township does not spend this money, there will be a problem with getting funding in the future. Council members discussed Green Acres funding owed for past acquisitions. The Secretary provided C/Grbelja with the list of properties and money owed for past acquisitions. C/Grbelja discussed past Green Acres acquisitions and how the financing has worked in the past and explained that as long as the State owes the Township money, we will continue to receive funding. Council members entered into a lengthy discussion regarding Green Acres acquisitions and funding.
 - Ms. Butch explained that the \$15 minimum wage bill has come out of committee in both houses. The minimum wage will increase incrementally over several years until reaching \$15. The \$15 minimum wage will hurt agriculture and small businesses. New Jersey agriculture competes with surrounding states with lower minimum wages. There has been discussion about providing agricultural businesses with credits to offset the cost of labor.
- **Stewardship:** Ms. Butch offered to contact Ms. D'Andrea regarding stewardship of open space properties.
- **Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications:** There is nothing new to report for the Planning Board. An application for a cell tower on Township-owned property was heard at last night's Board of Adjustment meeting and will carry to the next BoA meeting.

At 8:18 pm, a Motion to move to executive session was made by Ms. Schloss with a Second offered by Mr. Denardo. The Secretary read the resolution to move to closed session. Roll call vote:

AYES: (8) Bailey, Butch, Denardo, Grbelja, Kozak, Marra, Morelli, Schloss

NAYS: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

At 9:28 pm the Council returned to regular session. Having no further business to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was made by C/Grbelja with a Second offered by Mr. Denardo and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher
Council Secretary