

**OPEN SPACE AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION
MINUTES
JUNE 22, 2006**

At 7:47 p.m., Ms. Butch opened the meeting.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call: Present: Alves, Denardo, Abilheira, Morelli, Siedman, Wingerter

Late: Butch (8:32)

Absent: Disick, Mullarkey, Romano

Public Comment portion opened and closed at 7:48 p.m.

Approval of the minutes of May 25, 2006. Mr. Alves made a motion to approve and Mr. Wingerter offered a second. All in favor.

Old Business

Ms. Butch and Mr. Wingerter met with the township engineers, Matt Shafai and Lisa Spaziano, to discuss the following:

- An ordinance should be created establishing the allowable uses of trails. For instance, the Galloping Hills trails are bridle paths; no other use is permitted. The Halka trails are open to all non-motorized uses since Green Acres was involved in the preservation. Additionally, several homeowners have been unofficially allowing horseback riding through their property; however, they are concerned about other uses on their property. A letter requesting an ordinance will be sent to Township Committee.
- Clarification is needed on the Master Trail Plan. Once the Master Trail Plan is adopted as a component of the Master Plan, will applicants be required to create the trail. A letter requesting clarification will be sent to the Township Committee, Planning Board, Township Planner, and Township Attorney.

Mr. Wingerter also discussed establishing a procedure to alert all parties when a property designated with a trail on the Master Trail Plan submits an application to the Planning Board. A letter will be sent to Michael Steib, Planning Board attorney, and Matt Shafai, Township Engineer, asking who should be responsible for notifying the applicant in this situation.

Planning for Millstone Day continues. Mr. Wingerter mentioned that Dancing DJs will donate the money machine again. Additionally, he may be able to get a mechanical bull donated. Ms. Siedman has identified several area businesses as possible donors. A form letter will be drafted to be used for soliciting donations.

New Business

The total preserved acreage signs need to be updated. The current signs reflect 3424 acres while the actual acreage now exceeds 4000. The preserved acreage will be finalized this month and the new vinyl numbers will be ordered.

An increase in the open space tax was discussed. Mr. Wingerter found information on the internet on gaining approval in getting this referendum passed. A letter will be sent to the Mayor and Township Committee asking that we approach voters to increase the Open Space Tax by one-cent in November.

Mr. Wingerter mentioned that the Monmouth Conservation Foundation is holding a fundraiser dinner on September 30, 2006, at the Timelot Farm. This 100-acre farm overlooks the Navesink River and will soon be part of the Monmouth County Park System. The theme for the evening is farming.

Ms. Butch mentioned that the Millstone Charity Gala will be held on November 11, 2006. The Millstone Trailblazers are one of three groups selected to be recipients of this year's Gala proceeds.

Committee Reports

Finance: Nothing new to report.

Signage: Mr. Wingerter is looking at sign designs to identify preserved land in town. Only those preserved through SADC and Green Acres are currently identified.

Public Relations / Publications: Plans are being made for a September newsletter. The newsletter will be available through a link of the website.

Legislative Awareness: Ms. Butch discussed the Animal Waste Management proposed rules. These new rules will create a hardship for farmers. Essentially anyone can be found in violation. The rules do not provide for a cure period; daily monetary penalties are assessed from the date of violation.

Planning Board / Board of Adjustment Applications:

- The Horzepa subdivision will have a trail on it. The exact placement has not been determined.
- A trail has been requested on the Perl North and South development.
- The Huneke trail continues to be an open issue. A trail connecting the Buono property on Baird Road to the county property is desired.

A “wish list” of locations for future trails is being developed.

Ms. Siedman made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:40. Mr. Wingerter offered a second. All in favor.

At 9:36, the Council returned to the Regular Session.

At 9:36 p.m., Mr. Wingerter offered a motion to adjourn. Ms. Morelli offered a second. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Naugle