

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024
215 Millstone Road, Millstone Twp.
MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Scott called the Meeting to Order at 7:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

READING OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

The adequate notice was read by Secretary DeFelice.

ROLL CALL:

Present: (7) - Mr. Blackwell, Ms. Butewicz, Ms. Harper (7:46), Mr. Madeam, Ms. Ming, Ms. Scott, Mr. Ziner
Absent: (0)

OATH OF OFFICE: The Oath of Office was given to Mr. Ziner by Ms. Scott.

Oath of Office was given to Mr. Blackwell, Ms. Butewicz, Mr. Pado, Ms. Talyansky by Mr. Ziner. Ms. Scott expressed the council's gratitude to the years of service provided by Ms. Morelli and Mr. Smith.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN: Councilperson Ziner made a Motion to nominate Kelly Scott as Chairperson and Councilperson Blackwell offered a Second. All voted in favor to appoint Ms.Scott as Chairperson.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Chairperson Scott made a Motion to nominate Mark Blackwell as Vice-Chairperson and Chairperson Ziner offered a Second. All voted in favor to appoint Mr. Blackwell as Vice-Chairperson

MEETING SCHEUDLE: Chairperson Scott made a motion to approve the meeting schedule and Councilperson Butewicz offered a second. All voted in favor.

Adopting a monthly meeting schedule to be held at 7:30 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted or advertised. These meetings will be held in-person at the Millstone Court Building located at 215 Millstone Road. It was noted that the Planning Board has a meeting scheduled for the fourth Thursday of February. Everyone agreed to move next month's meeting to the 29th. Ms. Ming moved to accept the dates and Ms. Butewicz provided a second. All voted in favor of the dates listed below.

*February 29, 2024
March 28, 2024
April 25, 2024
May 23, 2024
June 27, 2024
July 25, 2024

August 22, 2024
September 26, 2024
October 24, 2024
* November 21, 2024
* December 19, 2024
January 23, 2025

The Oath of Office was read to Ms. Harper by Mr. Ziner

2024 SUBCOMMITTEES: Chairperson Scott reviewed the subcommittees that council members will need to participate in. Everyone helps with the Clambake and Stewardship.

Finance – A request was made to Mr. Ziner to have Finance provide access to the Open Space Trust expenditures for the Council to review.

Fundraising – Clambake June 2nd - Ms. Ming and Ms. Talyansky with assistance from Ms. Scott. The June 2nd date will be confirmed after speaking with Mr. Asprocolas.

Grant Writing – Ms. Harper

OSP Stewardship – Everyone -Ms. Scott will organize one before she leaves the committee

Planning Board – Mr. Pado

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairperson Scott opened the public comment portion of the meeting at 7:52PM and closed at 7:52PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 28, 2023

Chairperson Scott made a motion to approve the minutes from September 28, 2023 and Councilperson Butewicz offered a second.

Roll Call: Mr. Blackwell, Ms. Butewicz, Mr. Madeam, Ms. Ming, Ms. Scott and Mr. Ziner voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Green Acres provided the enabling resolution for the 2023 \$700,000 Evergreen Project grant. The Township will be moving the resolution at the 2/7 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

SPRING ROAD –

- **REMEDIATION:** Bids were opened for the Remediation project. The winning bid was Ambient Group. Their LSRP, Paul Kenny, was on the Green Acres list.
- **FARM LEASE:** Waiting for Ag to approve lease terms before going out to bid. The Township must go out to bid since there is no contract in place from the previous owner. Their lease was year to year.

BARNEGAT BAY PRESERVE – Bids were opened and DCRS was awarded the bid for creating the path. Pre construction meeting held last week. Mr. Blackwell met with the contractor and felt comfortable with the level of expertise. The educational component of the grant is not part of the contract and will need to be worked on by our Council.

CLARKSBURG CULTURAL CENTER – Project split in half. 2 room building with bicycle station, parking lot and bathrooms. The building is up but the parking area still needs to be completed.

MILLSTONE PARK PAVILLION GRANT - \$600k + grant for a pavilion to provide shelter and a picnic area inside the park. Resubmission of grant would be due in June. Moving forward with this grant for 2024 would leave no ability to get matching funds for repairs needed for Abate Park that has significant repair needs.

NEW BUSINESS:

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Droned a property that we are looking to purchase. The Clambake was a success. Still waiting for additional funding for Spring Road purchase from the County. Expect to have a full council this year. Completed the purchase of 2 properties in 2023. Spring Road and Burnt Tavern Rd.

2024 BUDGET: Submitted budget was reviewed. No issues.

2024 GOALS: Hold a successful Clambake in June. Purchase 2 more Open Space properties. Publish 2 newsletters.

MILLSTONE PARK PHASE II – Should have been closed out by end of December. Twp. Engineer and Recreation were responsible for submitting final paperwork.

SPRING NEWSLETTER: The next newsletter is organized by the Ag council. They should have enough articles.

SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOLS – This will provide a path from the Middle School to both Baird House and Wagner Park. No information on status of the grant request.

EVENTS:

Already discussed Clambake

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

No reports at this Re-org meeting

At 8:21 p.m., Chairperson Scott made a motion to leave the regular session and enter into Executive.

At 9:24 p.m the Council returned to the Regular Meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ziner and seconded by Ms. Ming.

Respectfully Submitted
Andrew DeFelice, Open Space Preservation Council Secretary