

OPEN SPACE & AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2009

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:45P.M. Chairwoman Sandra McNicol called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News on January 15th, 2009, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Star Ledger , and the Express Times on January 8, 2009. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Post Office on January 8, 2009.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this committee or Board, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over talk, and further, all persons are ,the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

ROLL CALL

Open Space Advisory Committee

Present - Sandra McNicol	Absent - James Burke
Phil Lubitz	Lee Frank
Richard Dodds	Linda Osterwinter
	John Mathieu

Agriculture Advisory Committee

Present: Elaine Niemann	Absent - Pete D'Costa
William Pandy	
Cynthia Niciecki	
Ed Kralovich	

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Also present at the meeting was Farmland Coordinator, Liz Schmid.

There were not enough members present on the Open Space Advisory Committee to form a quorum. The meeting will take place with no motions or votes.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the October 1, 2009 Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committee Minutes

There were not enough members to have a quorum for the Open Space Advisory Committee, therefore, these minutes will be approved at the December 3rd meeting by both committees.

Correspondence

14th Annual New Jersey Land Conservation Rally

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol reviewed.

Reports

Farmland Preservation - Liz Schmid

Liz Schmid was present and noted that the Crouse Property has closed. The Felix Farm has not been given final approval until it goes for a public hearing before the Planning Board for review. She explained that the Township Committee has agreed to absorb the costs if the State does not. She discussed the Stepanovski Farm, and how they are interested in preserving. She explained that the Township has chosen two farms for the PIG for 2010. There were actually three farms and one pulled out, which was the Gross Farm. The Feliz Farm, and the Simon Farm are the two farms that will participate in the PIG for 2010. Richard Dodds showed several farms on the overhead computer for everyone to review. They also reviewed several properties that surround the Clark Property.

Attendees for Farmland Status Meetings/October 21, 2009

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol noted that the Township's Farmland Preservation Coordinator Liz Schmid attended the meeting.

Old Business

The following Resolutions were adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting on October 6, 2009:

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol reviewed the following resolutions that were adopted by the Township Committee on October 6, 2009.

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Copy of Resolution No. 2009-120 Farmland Preservation PIG

Copy of Resolution No. 2009-122 Resolution Supporting Green Acres Bond Act of 2009

Copy of Resolution No. 2009-123 Supporting the 2010 PIG Program

Copy of Resolution No. 2009-124 Resolution Supporting Delaware River Stewardship Initiative Program

Co-Chairman Richard Dodds commented on the Delaware River Stewardship Initiative Program.

Richard Dodds gave an update on the preservation of the Clark property. He noted that about a month ago this property was finalized. Mr. Dodds brought the property up on a computer for everyone to review. There was a discussion on who would be in control of the property. He explained that this is the most recent property preserved.

Preservation Signs - Design Review

Sandra McNicol stated she had three ideas to share with everyone. She showed three printed designs printed up for the committees to decide. They all agreed that the traditional style sign is the one they like the best. The sign will have the name of the owner who preserved the property, and the Township in which it is located. Sandra explained that a company named Deptor will be making the signs, and that they are reasonably priced.

Sustainable Jersey Program - update on Green Team

Elaine Niemann explained that the Green Team is expanding and that they are arming up for 2010. She noted that there were three new faces at the last meeting. The members are as follows: Elaine Niemann, Diane Haywood, David Posey, Mary Beck, Kevin Bloom, Wendy Richardson, and Eric Scher. She explained that they are working on an energy audit and also a solar project for the Township Public Works Garage.

Hunterdon Land Trust - Activity update

This update was discussed during the meeting.

New Business

Review Budget Request for 2010

The budget request will be discussed at the December 3rd, meeting.

Public Comments - Privilege of the Floor

Phil Lubitz noted that he read a story in the Star Ledger this week regarding Route 29 along the Delaware River, and also along the Millstone River, that they were designated scenic highways in New Jersey.

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Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Niemann, seconded by Mr. Pandy and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller,
Secretary