

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

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| Members | Glorianne Robbi | Chair |
| Present: | Richard Ginman | Vice Chair |
| | Kat Cannelongo | Committee Member and Historic Preservation Liaison |
| | Bill du Fosse' | Alternate I and Agricultural Advisory Liaison |
| Liaisons Present: | Pat Cregar | Township Committee-Mayor Designee |
| | Angelo Lovisa | Recreation Committee |
| | Toni Robbi | Environmental Commission |
| Others | Judy Conard | Administrator |

IN COMPLIANCE WITH the Open Public Meetings Act, it was noted that this is a regular meeting of the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee pursuant to the meeting notice published in the January 21, 2010 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. On February 4, 2010 notice of this meeting was filed in the Township Clerk's Office, sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the agenda was posted on the bulletin board.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Chair, Robbi opened the meeting to the public. Richard Wolfe introduced himself and his wife Kathy Wolfe. Mr. Wolfe is hoping to buy a farm and has looked at several properties in East Amwell Township. He is attending the meeting to learn more about East Amwell Township and to see how 'we all get along'. Ms. Robbi welcomed him to the meeting. Motion to close to the public made by Dick Ginman, second by Pat Cregar and carried.

MINUTES OF MEETING held January 11, 2010. Motion by Dick Ginman, second by Pat Cregar to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL: In addition to bills listed on the agenda, a bill from Ms. Conard for \$149.36 for incidental expenses was added to the list. She explained that cost for filing ROSI list with the Hunterdon County Clerk as required by Green Acres was \$110.00 and is the largest part of the bill. Motion made by Dick Ginman to pay bills as listed with addition of expenses presented by Ms. Conard. Second by Pat Cregar and carried.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: No additions to the agenda.

ACTIVE PROPERTIES UPDATE/ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: Ms. Conard distributed the report and apologized that it was not included with the packets. In addition to the written report Ms. Conard said that she contacted Mr. Millette at the County for an update on the status of the revised survey for the Estate of Hazel Harrison. Mr. Millette reported

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that he has contacted the surveyor and asked for the required written metes and bounds description.

Ms. Conard distributed list of Committee Members reflecting recent changes in committee structure. Mr. du Fosse' is now Alternate I and continues as liaison for the Agricultural Advisory Committee and Fred Gardner is a member of the Committee and continues as Planning Board liaison.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Map showing preserved and targeted farms:

FOSPC wants to develop a list of properties to be considered for farmland and open space preservation. A list of properties was presented for consideration. A map showing the current preserved farms with the properties under consideration also shown was reviewed to give an overview of the preservation plan. After discussion, Chair Robbi asked all committee members to review the list for continued discussion at the March meeting.

Update on Drift Property

Glorianne Robbi reported that Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance (HLTA) presented an application to the federal agency called the Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program for fifty percent of the funding to buy the easements on the Drift Property (Block 27 Lot 33). East Amwell agreed to provide an appraisal of this property and to cost share. HLTA reported that the property did not meet the minimum point requirements to qualify for Ranch Land funding. HLTA is currently working on other funding possibilities. East Amwell will not request bids for this appraisal until HLTA has secured funding. The Drift application requests a seven acre non-severable exception.

NEW BUSINESS

Summary of conference: Planning for Local Farms and Food

Glorianne Robbi reviewed the written report included with meeting materials. She said the model ordinances presented at the meeting were excellent. These model ordinances will be sent to the Planning Board and to the Agriculture Advisory Committee. Glorianne will contact Fred Gardner and Linda Lennox to discuss the meeting and the written materials.

LIAISON REPORTS

Agriculture Advisory Committee

- Bill du Fosse' reported that Linda Lennox is the committee chair and he is Vice Chair. Other committee members are Kit Crisafulli, John Perhyns and Frances Gavigan.

Recreation Committee

- Angelo Lovisa reported details of the Easter Egg Hunt planned for the 2nd Saturday before Easter.
- The president of the Amwell Valley Baseball Assn does not need more fields but is focused on changing size of infield to accommodate small children.
- Recreation has no need for additional property. The Kohane Property is low and wet and not suitable.

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- Mr. Lovisa will check with Kevin Richardson at the County about status of land across from the South County Park (Fair Grounds) in terms of active recreation.

Environmental Commission

- Toni Robbi reported that new chair is Suzanne Parsons.
- Goal this year is to inspect 40 of the 100 conservation easements identified and listed last year.

Historic Preservation

- Kat Cannelongo reported that she remains the Chair of Historic Preservation.
- The Design Awards were presented in January to Unionville Vineyards in the commercial category and Serendipity Farms for gardens.
- Images of American photo project is going well. The committee received many photographs and is now writing captions. Deadline to complete project is late March with publication due in the summer.

REPORTS

Energy Generation of Farms: Bill de Fosse' reported that the state passed new laws regarding wind generation on preserved farms. Farmers await the rules to implement the law. Preserved farms will be limited to generating 110% of the energy needed to for the farm.

Public Hearing at the County regarding road work proposed for Wertsville Road.

Judy and Glorianne reported that E. Amwell was well represented at the public hearing. Concerns for public safety were expressed. Freeholders will visit the site to review the project. Freeholders voted to continue with the project.

CORRESPONDENCE

Annual Land Rally sponsored by New Jersey Conservation Foundation was discussed. East Amwell won a free registration based on submission of materials regarding Clawson Park. Glorianne and Judy will attend and others are invited also. Cost is \$75.00.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was noted that the Case Farm auction by SADC on Feb. 9 will first take bids based on no exception area for a house. If that is not successful, it will then be offered with a non-severable exception for a house.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Chair opened the meeting to the public. No members of the public spoke. A motion was made by Dick Ginman to close to the public with a second by Kat Cannelongo. Motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the East Amwell Municipal Building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on motion by Pat Cregar with second by Dick Ginman. Motion carried.