

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 11, 2011**

Members

Present:	Glorianne Robbi	Chair
	Dick Ginman	Vice Chair
	Kat Cannelongo	Committee Member and Historical Preservation Liaison (arrived 7: 45)
	Pat Cregar	Township Committee-Mayors Designee

Liaisons

Present:	Toni Robbi	Environmental Commission
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Alternates

Bill duFosse'	Alternate 1- and Ag Advisory Liaison
Joan Sank	Alternate 2

Others

Michael Catania	Conservation Resources Inc. (left 8:30 p.m.)
Bob Kanase	Conservation Resources Inc. (left 8:30 p.m.)
Martha Pittore	FOSPC Secretary

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 27, 2011 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. On July 6, 2011 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: Glorianne Robbi opened the meeting to the public. No members of the public spoke. A motion was made by Dick Ginman to close the meeting to the public, second by Pat Cregar. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF MEETING held April 11, 2011. FOSPC recommended minor corrections to the minutes. These changes will be incorporated into the original which will be filed and distributed. A motion was made by Dick Ginman to approve the amended minutes, second by Bill duFosse'. Motion carried. Abstention: Pat Cregar.

SPECIAL DISCUSSION: Michael Catania, President of Conservation Resources Inc., described services provided by the non profit environmental consulting organization. He offered FOSPC assistance in open space, farmland preservation and trails plans, preservation funding, landowner negotiations, GIS services. FOSPC discussed several projects where CRI services may help. Dick Ginman will inform Mayor Tatsch.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL:

A motion made by Dick Ginman to pay bills as listed on the agenda, second by Kat Cannelongo. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

ACTIVE PROPERTIES UPDATE/ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: In addition to the written report submitted by the Administrator, Glorianne Robbi presented the following update:

- Rynearson: Property closed on June 27, 2011.
- Hazel Harrison Trust: Property closed on June 24, 2011.
- Scibilia: Documents have been signed which will allow Wells Fargo to proceed with appraisal of non-preserved lot and release from security on home farm. This should allow closing with SADC to proceed.
- Holcombe: The Holcombe's signed the agreements to sell easements to the State. Survey and title work will proceed after Attorney DiBianca review.
- Southwark Farm: Jorgensen: Mr. Denlinger at SADC met with Amy Jorgensen. Appraisals will proceed to obtain certified market value for SADC certification.
- Drift: Application has stalled due to need for Wells Fargo subordination.
- Thompson Old York Road property: Mr. Thompson wishes to divide farm as proposed several years ago into two 50 acre lots and one 10 acre lot. FOSPC considers this not a good preservation candidate under those circumstances.

Administrators Report: Letter regarding proposed wind energy generation. FOSPC reviewed the draft letter prepared by Fred Gardner. The letter expresses strong opposition to proposed Bill A3992. FOSPC members will present the letter to Township Committee for review and approval at their July 14 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Report of contact with Randy Pease at D&R Greenway: Glorianne Robbi stated a letter has been sent to Randy Pease, land specialist at D&R extending an invitation to attend a FOSPC meeting. A tentative date has been scheduled for next meeting on September 12, 2011.

Township Committee letter to County Freeholders re: Availability of Plimpton Property: FOSPC reviewed the draft letter advising Freeholders of opportunity for the County to add 20 acres to Sourland Preserve which will expand parking and improve public access. FOSPC will present the letter to Township Committee for review and approval at next meeting on July 14.

Ideas for thank you for Leverton and Rynearson: Glorianne Robbi stated thank you letters have been sent from FOSPC and Township Committee. FOSPC discussed holding a small event to thank landowners who preserved their land.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **Historic Preservation:** Kat Cannelongo stated the grant has been approved for \$61,000 the Clawson House. Contractors will be solicited for bid proposals.
- **Planning Board:** No report was made.
- **Ag Advisory:** Bill duFosse' stated no meeting was held; thus no report was made.
- **Environmental Commission:** Toni Robbi stated the Environmental Commission will share a table with Raritan Township at the 4H Fair held in August.
- **Recreation Committee:** No report was made.

REPORTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence noted as listed on agenda- no further comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements noted as listed on agenda-no further comments.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No members of public present.

There will be no August meeting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Amwell Municipal Building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. by motion of Dick Ginman, second by Kat Cannelongo and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:
Martha Pittore, Secretary