

MINUTES: Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee
Meeting held September 14, 2009

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

Members	Glorianne Robbi	Chair
Present:	Richard Ginman	Vice Chair
	Kat Cannelongo	Committee Member and Historic Preservation Liaison (arrived at 8:30)
	Fred Gardner	Alternate I and Planning Board Liaison
	Bill duFosse	Alternate II and Agricultural Advisory Liaison
Liaisons	Toni Robbi	Environmental Commission
Present:		
Others	Judy Conard	Administrator
Present:	Martha Pittore	Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30 p.m. by Chair, Glorianne Robbi.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH the Open Public Meetings Act, it was noted that this is regular meeting of the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee pursuant to the meeting notice published in the February 19, 2009 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. On September 9, 2009 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. There were no members of the public present. A motion was made by Fred Gardner to close to the public, second by Dick Ginman. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF MEETING August 10, 2009. FOSPC members recommended minor corrections. These changes will be incorporated into the original which will be filed and distributed. A Motion was made by Fred Gardner to approve the minutes, as amended, second by Dick Ginman. Motion carried.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL:

A Motion was made by Fred Gardner to approve the bills as listed on the agenda, second by Dick Ginman. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Old Business:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Update-Recreation Committee | Glorianne Robbi |
| • Annual Report | Fred Gardner |

ACTIVE PROPERTIES UPDATE/ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: In addition to the written report, Judy added the following:

- **Scibilia:** Judy was advised by Greg Scibilia that the stone he installed is not in accordance with County Board of Health specification. The stone must be removed and replaced.
- **Hazel Harrison Trust:** The CADB has received the surveyors' bids. The bids must now be reviewed by the County's Purchasing Department.
- **Gutowski/Paulson:** Awaiting signatures on contracts; per Lori from Mr. Cushing's office these should be ready soon.
- A check for \$9,543.50 has been received for 50% reimbursement of soft costs on PIG closings for the Estate of Lillian Kanach and Isabella.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Cider Mill Rd property owned by Lanwin Corporation:** (See minutes August 10, 2009). The Township Committee previously approved paying for one appraisal to indicate value on this property owned by Bryce Thompson. Judy stated requests for appraisals were held up due to discrepancy with map used to indicate location of the non-severable exception. The matter was subsequently cleared up. Only one of the three bid appraisals requested has been received.
- **Wallin Property/D&R Greenway:** The Township previously agreed to cost share with D&R for an amount not to exceed \$15,000 toward purchase of this property. A formal request for payment has been received from D & R Greenway. Dick Ginman stated Mr. Cushing is working on a solution to a problem of contract ownership. Dick will follow up with Mr. Cushing and Bill Rawlyk of D&R.
- **Comprehensive Farmland Plan:** Glorianne Robbi stated the SADC is asking for additional information to the revised Comprehensive Farmland Plan delivered to them on July 2, 2009. Dick will work with Fred on Planning Board issues and TDR. Bill duFosse agreed to discuss questions on agricultural issues with the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Glorianne asked that all information be submitted to her within the next two weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Recreation Committee:** Proposed project with West Amwell to acquire land for ball fields (See minutes August 10, 2009). Glorianne Robbi stated the matter has been turned over to the Township Committee and Mayor Kneski has requested follow-up information from Chair of Recreation Committee.
- **Annual Report:** Fred Gardner made the following suggestions for the next annual report:
 - List the non-profit groups who have contributed to preservation efforts in East Amwell such as D&R Greenway, NJ Conservation and The Nature Conservancy. The number of preserved acres should also be included.
 - Cite the financial benefits to the taxpayers between preserved farmland vs. developed land.

FOSPC members agreed these are good ideas to add to the annual report.

NEW BUSINESS

- **CADB 2010 Application Round:** Judy stated the Zuegner application was sent to the CADB to be included in the 2010 round of county funding. The deadline date is October 21, 2009. FOSPC noted the appraisals on the Thompson Cider Mill Road parcel may not be completed in time to file application before the deadline date. Dick Ginman will alert Bill Rawlyk in an effort to move the process forward.
- **Memo from Terri Stahl regarding website changes.** FOSPC members agreed Rob Gilbert would be a good candidate to develop text for the FOSPC section of the website. Glorianne will speak with Rob to see if he is interested.
- **Bill for Banish Associates** in the amount of \$960.00 for work done on mapping etc. to complete Comprehensive Farmland Plan. Fred Gardner agreed to have this bill added to the agenda for the next Planning Board meeting. Judy will advise Maria Andrews accordingly.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Planning Board:

Fred Gardner stated discussions continue on tree harvesting.

Agricultural Advisory Board:

Bill duFosse stated information was exchanged between FOSPC and Ag Advisory at the last FOSPC meeting on August 10, 2009.

Environmental Committee

Toni Robbi stated the draft letter that will be sent to landowners regarding conservation easements is under review by Dick Cushing.

Historic Preservation:

Kat Cannelongo stated they continue to work on grant money for the Clawson House. The committee is also collecting old photos for publication of the History of Ringoes through Arcadia Publishing.

Recreation Committee: See remarks above.

REPORTS

- **CADB meeting** held September 10, 2009: Dick stated a discussion was held on the water run-off issue caused by a break in the berm running through property owned by John Seramba and other adjacent properties.
- **New Jersey Conservation Foundation request for Successful Land Preservation Projects:** Glorianne Robbi stated application for the Clawson Park project was submitted for consideration.

CORRESPONDENCE

- NJ League of Municipalities Mayor's FAX Advisory provided information about the Green Acres, Water Supply, Floodplain Protection, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2009 which will appear on the November ballot. Kat Cannelongo will work on a letter of support for publication in the Democrat and will check on a price for a banner.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS: All items listed under the Agenda noted without further comments.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Glorianne Robbi opened the meeting to the public. No members of the public were present. A motion was made by Fred Gardner to close to the public, second by Dick Ginman. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. by motion of Dick Ginman, second by Kat Cannelongo. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 12, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Amwell Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Pittore, Secretary
FOSPC