

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
April 8, 2013**

Members

<b>Present</b>	Glorianne Robbi	Committee Chair
	Dick Ginman	Vice Chair
	Fred Gardner	Committee Member and Planning Board Liaison

Members

<b>Absent:</b>	Pat Cregar	Committee Member and Mayor's Designee
	Kat Cannelongo	Committee Member and Historical Preservation Liaison

Alternates

<b>Present:</b>	Peter Fick	Alternate 2
	Joan Sank	Alternate 1

Liaisons

<b>Present:</b>	Toni Robbi	Environmental Commission Liaison
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Liaisons

<b>Absent:</b>	Kit Crisafulli	Agricultural Advisory Committee Liaison
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Others:

Judy Conard	Administrator
Christine Rosikiewicz	Secretary

The Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m.

**IN COMPLIANCE WITH** the Open Public Meetings Act, Ms. Conard noted that this is a regular meeting of the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee pursuant to the meeting notice published in the January 31, 2013 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. On April 3, 2013 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:**

**Ms. Robbi made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mr. Gardner seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed.**

Mr. Mike Buczynski, 252 Mountain Rd., resides next to the Wiedemer land which was recently preserved. After Hurricane Irene there were trees and branches on the Wiedemer property that came down onto his property and had not been removed. Mr. Buczynski said he would not agree to the preservation of the Wiedemer property until the debris was removed and put into the woods. He noted his awareness of the importance of environmental

stewardship. He said the debris was removed from his property and placed about two feet from his property line on the Wiedemer parcel. He said he was not contacted by the Township for a final review before closing. When he looks out his window he can see where the debris was dumped. He inquired about what to do and who is responsible as he would like someone to move it into the woods.

Mr. Ginman explained that this property is now owned by the Township and D&R Greenway; D&R is responsible for stewardship. The Committee will advise D&R Greenway.

Ms. Robbi reported that she walked the property that afternoon and outlined where the debris was located. She saw the four foot high markers that D&R put on the northwest end of the property. She reported that there is debris on Mr. Buczynski's property and clarified that the debris of concern was to the west of the property line. Mr. Buczynski said his concern is the piles left by the tree service; he would like these piles taken into the woods.

Ms. Robbi noted that one marker was taken down and was located by Mr. Buczynski's garage. Mr. Buczynski said he didn't realize it was a permanent marker and will put it back.

Mr. Ginman will convey Mr. Buczynski's concerns to D&R Greenway.

Mr. Robbi explained that D&R Greenway's stewardship is primarily done by volunteers. Mr. Robbi invited Mr. Buczynski to join the volunteers if moving the debris is scheduled by D&R as a future project. Mr. Buczynski said he would be glad to help. Mr. Buczyanski reiterated that he believes in preservation, expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Committee and expressed regret that he was not notified before the property closed.

**Mr. Gardner made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Ms. Robbi seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed.**

**MINUTES OF MEETING held March 11, 2013:**

**Ms. Robbi made a motion to approve the March 11, 2013 meeting minutes; Ms. Sank seconded it. All were in favor with Mr. Gardner abstaining; the March 11, 2013 minutes were approved.**

**BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

**A motion was made Ms. Robbi to pay the bills as listed on the agenda, second by Mr. Gardner. All were in favor; the motion carried.**

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:**

Ms. Robbi announced that Judy Conard is resigning in late May. Ms. Conard expressed her thanks to the Committee and Township. She noted the many kindnesses extended to her during her ten year tenure and appreciated the flexibility they allowed in her work schedule. The Committee expressed their appreciation to Ms. Conard for the work she has done.

## **ACTIVE PROPERTIES UPDATE/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Ms. Conard made the following report:

- Scibilia: The Mayor is writing a letter to Mr. Scibilia asking him to cooperate in order to conclude this project.
- Hay: Ms. Hay signed the letter accepting the offer for purchase of development easements. Ms. Robbi and Mr. Ginman will attend the Township Committee meeting Thursday night and request funding approval.
- Perkovich: SADC is working on this direct purchase application.
- Plimpton: Awaiting appraisal; cost share approved by CADB.

CADB: Ms. Conard reported that the CADB has an open position on its Board for a member of the public.

D&R Greenway Projects: Ms. Robbi and Mr. Ginman are working with D&R Greenway to develop a list of properties in East Amwell that D&R and East Amwell would be interested in acquiring. D&R sent letters to several landowners expressing D&R Greenway interest in talking to them.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

GreenFest: Ms. Robbi expressed thanks to everyone who helped and attended. She reported that thank you letters were sent out. Mr. Ginman suggested participants be asked to suggest improvements for next time. The Committee briefly discussed the event and the positive feedback that was received.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### Update and Discussion on Trail Projects

- Stonybrook Trail: Mr. Ginman reported that construction has started on the bridge on Route 518 and an expanded shoulder may be available for parking.
- Omick Trail: Alan Hershey, Chair of D&R Greenway, is a trail expert and has accepted this project for 2013/2014.
- Old BR&W Railroad Bed Trail from Ringoes to Lambertville: Larry Tatsch is working on this regional project.

## **LIAISON REPORTS:**

- Historic Preservation: Jim Davidson will present a talk on Lindbergh at Hillbilly Hall.
- Planning Board: Mr. Gardner reported:
  - The Lang/Chiesa subdivision was approved; there will be six houses on forty-one acres. Three quarters of the property (approximately thirty acres) will remain undeveloped, the remaining twenty-five percent will be a cluster development.
  - Mr. Gardner noted that a 26 acre property on Linvale Road recently sold and the new owner would like to construct a twenty stall barn and an indoor riding

arena. The application was denied by the Zoning Office because the plan exceeds impervious coverage limits set by the Township.

- Agricultural Advisory: No report as Mr. Crisafulli was absent.
- Environmental Committee: Mr. Robbi reported that Environmental Committee continues its work.
- Recreation Committee: Mr. Fick reported that the Recreation Committee has not yet met to re-organize. Thyra Zengel has agreed to join the Committee.

**REPORTS:**

Financial report on Wiedemer acquisition and Omick/Lang/Wiedemer Assemblage

Ms. Conard presented this report to Township Committee; Mr. Gardner commented favorably on the report.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

NY Times article about rising farmland prices in the mid-west: Noted without comment.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SADC**

- The SADC meeting is on April 26<sup>th</sup>; Ms. Robbi may attend.
- Ms. Conard reported that the Township Committee passed a resolution supporting a dedicated source of funding for Farmland and Open Space preservation. The resolution was sent to various interested parties.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

There was no public present.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is on May 13, 2013.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m. by motion of Mr. Ginman, second by Mr. Gardner and carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted:  
Christine Rosikiewicz, Secretary