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EAST AMWELL FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PERSERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 13, 2016
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 1070 ROUTE 202, RINGOES, NEW JERSEY

CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Chair Glorianne Robbi called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Members: Glorianne Robbi, Chair
 Tim Martin, Vice Chair
 David Wang-Iverson
 Kat Cannelongo
 Joan Sank
 Fred Gardner, alternate 2

Liaisons: Barbara Sageser, Historic Preservation
 Candice Wiggum, Agricultural Advisory

Absent: Pete Fick, alternate 1
 Dee Kellogg, liaison/Environmental Commission

Others Present: Tim Matthews

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chair Glorianne Robbi called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Katherine Fullerton noted that this is regular meeting pursuant to the meeting notice published in the January 21, 2016 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. On June 2, 2016, 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

The meeting was open to the public for comments. A motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Martin, was made to close to the public. All in favor.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of May 9, 2016 were approved on a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Ms. Cannelongo, and carried unanimously.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL

Banisch Associates submitted a bill of \$218.75 for updates to the Open Space Preservation Map. Motion made by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Gardner and approved to pay \$218.75 to Banisch.

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ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

Any report from the Administrator will be added throughout the discussion as warranted. The Wineries Pilot Program survey from SADC needs to be added to new Business. The status of State Funding was added to Old Business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Higgins Update

Katherine Fullerton reported on a conversation with Lisa McCollum of NJCF regarding the status of the Higgins contract. The Green Acres CMV process was encountering delays, so the contract with the owner will be extended to July 15.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Annual Report 2016

The map and narrative was sent to the Township Committee last week. The Township Committee approved the narrative with changes to one sentence regarding historic preservation. FOSPC approved sending out the map and narrative as modified. Mr. Martin agreed to make the changes and resend the narrative to the Township staff for mailing with the tax bill.

2. State Funding

In 2014 the public approved using the corporate tax for open space funding, rather than bonding. The Governor vetoed the legislation that would create this funding. The Committee decided to request that the Township Committee advise the legislators that serve East Amwell to support an override of the veto. Tim Martin moved and Fred Gardener seconded this decision. All were in favor. A memo will be drafted and sent to the Township Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of new FOSPC Administrator

Chair Robbi introduced Katherine Fullerton as the new Administrator/Secretary to the Committee effective May 18, 2016. Ms. Fullerton gave a brief review of her background and projects she has worked on since starting with East Amwell. In particular, she attended a conference by the NJCF and Watershed Institute that discussed methods of connecting young farmers with landowners, particularly of preserved farms. She also researched the conservation of 11 acres on Block 28 lot 8.01 on Manners Road through the process of a wetlands mitigation permit from the State. The Township has a recorded deed of easement for the conservation.

2. Discussion of method of approach for potential farmland preservation

Mr. Martin, Ms. Fullerton and Chair Robbi will meet with Jackie Middleton from the Hunterdon Land Trust and Stefanie Miller of SADC to review maps and the requirements for SADC preservation. There is some money set aside at the State level for East Amwell.

3. SADC Winery Pilot Program Survey

There are two wineries in East Amwell that are part of the SADC pilot program on special events. East Amwell received a questionnaire from the SADC regarding this program. The Committee agreed to review the survey and respond to Ms. Fullerton prior to the SADC deadline.

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Robbi reported on the Cluster Bill proposed at the most recent SADC meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Historic Preservation

Ms. Sageser reported that the grant application to the County for the Clawson House was fully accepted.

Planning Board

Mr. Gardener reported on resolutions approved by the Planning Board.

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Ms. Wiggum reported the AAC plans on holding a public program on deer management.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The meeting was open to the public for comments. Mr. Gardner displayed his most recent painting of the carriage shed at the Higgins property. The painting will be given to Lisa McCollum at NJCF. After this presentation was done, there was a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Martin, to close to the public. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be September 12, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wang-Iverson made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Martin to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katherine Fullerton

Recording Secretary

_____ date _____