

EAST AMWELL FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 9, 2023

Zoom Platform: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83308800602>

Passcode: FOSPC2022

CALL TO ORDER & STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The reorganization meeting of the East Amwell Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee (FOSPC) began at 7:31 p.m. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was published in the March 3, 2022 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. A copy of the agenda was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, posted on the bulletin board and township website.

ROLL CALL

2023 ATTENDANCE

Farmland and Open Space Preservation Committee Members (term expires)	1/9/2023	2/13/2023	3/13/2023	4/10/2023	5/8/2023	6/12/2023	7/10/2023	8/14/2023	9/11/2023	10/9/2023	11/13/2023	12/11/2023
Erica Johanson (12/2023) Vice Chair	X											
Michael Mills (12/2025) Chair	X											
Tara Ramsey (12/2023) TC Liaison	X											

REORGANIZATION

Since there are currently only two Committee Members, Mr. Mills and Ms. Johanson, both agreed to serve as Chair and Vice Chair respectively, no nominations or elections were conducted.

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

A motion made by Mr. Mills and seconded by Ms. Johanson to approve the Committee’s 2023 meeting schedule was unanimously approved. The Committee will meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 PM from February to December 2023 as follows: February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13 and December 11.

COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Ms. Merz asked for updates on Committee Liaisons. Ms. Ramsey is the Township Committee liaison; Mr. Mills is the Agricultural Advisory Committee and Planning Board liaison and Ms. Johanson is the Environmental Commission and Recreation Committee liaison.

Mr. Mills commented that he is going to reach out to people on Facebook to see if anyone is interested in becoming a FOSPC member. Also, Ms. Johanson said she is going to reach out to Alison Kavchok, who is also on the Environmental Commission and Recreation Committee, to see if she would like to become a member. Ms. Johanson said she would be a great addition to the committee. Ms. Ramsey agreed as she also knows Ms. Kavchok from working with her on the Recreation Committee and offered to reach out to her as well.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Mr. Mills made a motion, seconded by Ms. Johanson to accept the November 14, 2022 minutes; all in favor with Ms. Ramsey abstaining.

REVIEW OF BILLS

There were no bills to review.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Seeing no members of the public present, a motion made by Ms. Johanson, seconded by Ms. Ramsey to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

REPORTS

Administrator's Report

Ms. Merz reported there are no new applications at this time; however, there are currently two applications in process. One for 51 Saddle Shop Road and one for Frontage Road but did not have any additional updates on either.

Committee Liaison Reports

Mr. Mills was not at the AG meeting in Dec but Ms. Merz was able to give an update; deer management and the uptick of coyotes was discussed. Ms. Johanson updated that there was a cleanup event held recently at Amwell Lake and coming up in the next few weeks, there will be a Monarch Joint Venture presentation held via Zoom. Ms. Ramsey updated that the Township Committee reorganization meeting was held on January 3rd and there is a new Mayor, Jenna Casper-Bloom, and a new Deputy Mayor, Dante Dipirro.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Farmland Preservation Plan

Mr. Mills provided an update that we really haven't made too much progress on our Farmland Preservation Plan. Mr. Mills spoke with Katherine Fullerton, who worked on updating the plan most recently prior to her leaving in early 2021, and she said she took the plan as far as she could. Ms. Fullerton explained that the rest of it should be fairly easy to update with information that comes from

data that is provided to us from CADB. We just have to identify the data, update the demographic data, some of the local business and services data, and maps with the latest preservation information and any changes to our target farm list. Ms. Merz stated that she would save the plan in a folder and send out the Google drive link for everyone to access and view in one place. It could be used a one place for everyone to submit comments, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Seeing no members of the public present, a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Ms. Ramsey to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Ms. Ramsey, seconded by Ms. Johanson to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Jo Merz, Farmland/Open Space
Preservation Committee Secretary