

Open Space Advisory Committee – July 10, 2012

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7.30 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Hills, Andreoli, O'Brien, Kilmer, Cronce, Fisher (Township Committee Liaison)

Absent: Ashton, Sommers-Sayre, Shute

Late Arrival: None

Opportunity for Public Comment

Sean Pheiffer was present.

Presentation

Jay Watson, Vice President of D & R Greenway gave an update on D&R activity in West Amwell. The most recent acquisitions were Adams (22 acres) and Goat Hill (213 acres.) D&R is currently negotiating for Woodens Lane property (43 acres) which would use Green Acres and county funding. The projected cost is \$425,000 subject to funding and two appraisals.

Other potential projects are : Wooden Lane (Block 30, Lot 16) comprising 22 acres as a possible conservation easement, the New Jersey Barn Company site of 15 acres, and the Gingoli property on Wilson Road totaling 400 acres (Block 32, Lot 8 – 123.02 acres, Block 33, Lot 7 – 267.3 acres.)

D & R operates mostly in the southern half of the county. The organization provides assistance with technical issues and funding sources. D & R is a resource for all projects including farmland preservation and can also assist in trail development. Watson concluded by hoping that West Amwell would consider participating in the Wooden project.

During brief discussion Cronce suggested that Green Acres funding be added as an agenda item for the August meeting.

Minutes

Prior minutes were distributed for review and will be approved, subject to possible corrections, at the August meeting.

Farmland Preservation

Nunn Township Board approved the appraisals. Cronce will coordinate with Laura (Township Clerk.)

Toll North Cronce spoke with Bill Millet of Tolls Brothers. Awaiting paperwork from the county. Toll has project under review.

Toll South Site is not mowed on schedule due to equipment issues. Open Space sub-committee can recommend to the Township Board to use Open Space funds to buy a mower. There is a preference to have the Township buy the mower and allocate a portion to Open Space requirements. Fisher will get the mower issue on the Township Board agenda.

Green Acres

Foran (Block 7, Lot 16.03) 22 acres Frontage Road. Appraisals were sent to the State of New Jersey. Pfeiffer observed the State could take up to nine months to respond.

New Business

Discussion of about 54 acres on Rocktown-Lambertville Road. Hills and Shute will contact the landowner. Site is surrounded on three sides by preserved land.

Discussion of a paid part-time secretary for agenda, minutes and some filing. Members noted that the minutes need to be more timely. Fisher will have Laura put the topic on the Township Board agenda.

Correspondence No correspondence was discussed

Adjournment Motion to adjourn made by Andreoli with a second by Kilmer. Motion approved by voice vote – all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 8.45 p.m.

Next Meeting August 14, 2012 at 7.30 p.m.