

Open Space Advisory Committee – February 8, 2011

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Andreoli, Cronce, Hess, Kilmer, O'Brien, Pfeiffer, Sommers-Sayre

Late Arrival: Ashton (arrived at 7:33 p.m.)

Absent: Fisher (Twp. Committee Liaison)

2011 Open Space Committee Reorganization - Continued

Oaths of Office – The following oaths of office were administered:

Ernie Andreoli (3 year term)
Judy O'Brien (2 year unexpired term)
Marla Ashton (2 year unexpired term)

Introduction of New Members (Judy O'Brien, Marla Ashton)

2011 Continued Appointments:

By-laws Subcommittee – Cronce, O'Brien, Pfeiffer
Easement Monitoring Subcommittee – Cronce, Andreoli
GIS Mapping Subcommittee – Hess, Ashton
County Municipal Grant Application – O'Brien
Open Space Newsletter – Sommers-Sayre
Review of Open Space Plan – Pfeiffer, Sommers-Sayre, Kilmer

Opportunity for Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

Approval of written record for 11Jan2011 meeting

Deferred to next meeting.

Future Open Space Planning – Discussion

Open Space Plan & Green Acres Funding – Committee discussed developing an integrated map showing all public access areas in the Township. We would need to provide surveys and baseline reports to planner showing the trail corridors for the purpose of developing such a map. There was also some further discussion about putting up trail markers while conducting easement monitoring, in coordinate with landowners. It was again noted that there is about \$400,000 in Green Acres grant funding that has not yet been committed to specific projects.

Municipal Farmland Preservation PIG Application (2009-2012 funding rounds) – There was some general discussion about potential projects. Pfeiffer asked

committee members to think about potential projects. It was noted the new owners of the former Roebling property may be interested at some point, but aren't ready to proceed yet. Pfeiffer recently met with the Ag. Advisory Committee to discuss the Nunn application. Ag Advisory to follow up with the SADC regarding their questions about the application process.

Easement Monitoring

Update on easement monitoring activities – Glenn Baran is willing to meet with Cronce/Andreoli to discuss easement monitoring procedures.

Miscellaneous Project Updates

Open Space Newsletter – Nothing new to report.

County Municipal Grant Application – O'Brien to work on application once it is available.

Goat Hill Trails - Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance is going to take the lead on this project.

Open Space Map Updates – Map has been updated to add Gulick III as under contract, as well as a DEP property south of 518.

Project Assignments

No additional project assignments were made.

Farmland Preservation Project Update

- Amwell Hunt, Block 8, Lots 20 & 36, 130.36 acres, Route 179/Rock-Lamb Rd.
(Kilmer - recused due to owning property within 200')
Toll Brothers South, also known as West Amwell Ltd. Application has been submitted to USDA for soil conservation plan, which is still pending. Draft contract and professional services agreement with auctioneer firm being reviewed. Appraisals have been updated.
- Gulick III (Block 14, Lot 33.05) ~17 acres, Gulick Road
County PIG project. Contracts signed in November, 2010. Survey has been completed
- Nunn (Block 8, Lot 29.01) ~30 acres, Mill Road
Liaison: Pfeiffer
Pfeiffer met with Nunns last week to review application then submitted it to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for their review. Pfeiffer met with AAC on February 7 to review the application. AAC Chair to contact SADC for clarification on certification prior to signing application.

Green Acres Project Update

- Adam (Block 32, Lot 21.01) ~22 acres, Barry Road

Potential Fee Simple Partnership with D&R Greenway. Township Committee has indicated it would be willing to consider cost sharing on this project. Township cost share would come exclusively from Township's Green Acres grant funds as opposed to Open Space Trust. Landowner is willing to offer a 50% bargain sale from CMV.

- Bowers (Block 28, Lot 26) ~21.5 acres, Goat Hill Road Conservation easement project. Appraisal is ongoing.
- Foran (Block 7, Lot 16.03) ~22 acres, Frontage Road. Potential public access easement project. Map provided by D&R Greenway didn't reflect subdivision or existing conservation easement on property. Revised map being developed. Pfeiffer has been in contact with Foran re: status.
- Kilmer (Block 8, Lots 14 & 15) ~62 acres, Route 179 (Kilmer – recuse due to being property owner) Conservation easement project. Closed on October 13. Reimbursement for land costs has been received. Pfeiffer completed soft cost reimbursement package which has been submitted to Green Acres. Receipt of soft cost reimbursement payment is pending.
- Lawson (Block 16, Lot 6.01) ~15 acres, Route 518. Potential direct state acquisition. Hess will check with Catherine Drake on NJ DEP Green Acres regarding current status.

Bill List

The following bill was received from Robert F. Heffernan Associates (mentioned verbally at January meeting):

\$1900.00 – Toll (Appraisal Update) – Billed to Toll Brothers Ord. 05-2009.

The following bill was received from R Michael Schaible (Vanguard):

\$2000.00 – Toll (Appraisal Update) – Billed to Toll Brothers Ord. 05-2009.

Correspondence

No correspondence was discussed.

Opportunity for Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Hess with a second by Cronce. Motion carried on voice vote – all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2011, 7:30 p.m.