

Open Space Advisory Committee – March 8, 2011

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Ashton, Cronce, O'Brien, Pfeiffer

Late Arrival: None

Absent: Andreoli, Fisher (Twp Committee Liaison), Hess, Kilmer, Sommers-Sayre

Opportunity for Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

Approval of written record for 11Jan2011 meeting

(Andreoli, O'Brien – ineligible)

Motion to approve the record as presented was made by Cronce with a second by Pfeiffer. Motion approved on voice vote.

Approval of written record for 08Feb2011 meeting

Motion to approve the record as presented was made by Cronce with a second by Ashton. Motion approved on voice vote – all ayes.

Future Open Space Planning – Discussion

Open Space Plan & Green Acres Funding – Discussion items: ANJEC Grant Opportunity, Sustainable Jersey. Since there were no other volunteers, Sommers-Sayre has offered to work on an ANJEC grant application for updating the Open Space Plan. The application is due March 31. An updated Open Space will help the Township's score for its application for Sustainable Jersey certification.

Municipal Farmland Preservation PIG Application (2009-2012 funding rounds) – Nunn application was reviewed by the Agricultural Advisory Committee at their February meeting.

Easement Monitoring

Update on easement monitoring activities – Cronce will try to reach out to Baran about easement monitoring prior to the April meeting.

Miscellaneous Project Updates

Open Space Newsletter – Nothing new to report.

County Municipal Grant Application – Nothing new to report.

Open Space Map Updates – Hess recently updated the map to reflect that Gulick III is under contract and to add a five acre parcel purchased by NJ DEP in 2003 that was never added to the map.

Project Assignments

No 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. Auction scheduled for April 21, 1 p.m. Professional services agreement with Max Spann auction firm and contract for sale have been approved by Township Committee. Dan Knox (SADC) has been advised as to status of the soil conservation plan application – Dan confirmed that it is not a condition of sale. Pfeiffer is working with Township Clerk and Attorney Dragan to complete package for auction packets. Cronicc advised as to status of JCP&L work in the power line easements. Cronicc will talk to Public Works about completing brush cleanup around pond and will coordinate access for open houses.
- 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
Agricultural Advisory Committee reviewed application at their February meeting.

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. Pfeiffer spoke with Township Committee which is favorable to project. D&R Greenway to commission appraisals.
- 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. Pfeiffer has been in contact with Foran re: application 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 on status.

Bill List

The following bill was received from Sharon Dragan, Esq.:

\$823.20 – Toll (Review of auction contracts) – 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 Cronic with a second by O'Brien. Motion carried on voice vote – all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 7:30 p.m.