

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COUNCIL
THURSDAY, January 27, 2022
MEETING MINUTES**

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Millstone Township Open Space Preservation Council meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. was held using the Zoom Video Conferencing platform. Members of the public had the option to attend the meeting either by electronic device or by dialing in via telephone. This information was provided on the Township Website and on the Open Space Preservation Council Agenda.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Scott called the Meeting to Order at 7:34 p.m.

READING OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

The adequate notice was read by Secretary DeFelice: Let the minutes show that adequate notice of this meeting, as required by P. L. 1975, Chapter 231, has been provided by publication in The Asbury Park Press and The Times of Trenton, and posted on the Township bulletin board and filed with the Township Clerk on February 13, 2021.

ROLL CALL:

Present: (8) Avila, Blackwell, Butewicz, Committeeman Davis, Madeam, Morelli, Scott, Smith
Absent: (2) Riggan, Ziner

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN: Councilperson Morelli made a Motion to nominate Kelly Scott as Chairperson and Councilperson Smith offered a Second.

There were no other nominations.

All voted in favor to appoint Ms. Scott as Chairperson.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Chairperson Scott made a Motion to nominate Mark Blackwell as Vice-Chairperson and Chairperson Morelli offered a Second.

There were no other nominations.

All voted in favor to appoint Mr. Blackwell as Vice-Chairperson

MEETING SCHEUDLE: Chairperson Scott made a motion to approve the meeting schedule and Councilperson Morelli offered a second. All voted in favor.

Adopting a monthly meeting schedule to be held at 7:30 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted or advertised. These meetings will be held via zoom until Covid protocols and conditions warrant in-person meetings.

February 24, 2022	August 25, 2022
March 24, 2022	September 22, 2022
April 28, 2022	October 27, 2022
May 26, 2022	* November 17, 2022
June 23, 2022	* December 15, 2022
July 28, 2022	January 26, 2023

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9225936112>

Meeting ID: 922 593 6112

One tap mobile +19292056099,,9225936112# US (New York)

2022 SUBCOMMITTEES: Chairperson Scott reviewed the subcommittees that council members will need to participate in. Everyone helps with the Clambake but someone is needed to coordinate the event. Grant writing will need a new lead since Pat Butch is no longer part of the Council. Councilperson Madeam asked if Open Space uses outside professional services for grant writing. Chairperson Scott replied that there is a 3 year contract with Monmouth Conservation that charges hourly for consultation but we still need to pull the information together for the grant.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairperson Scott opened the public comment portion of the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Seeing no public, she closed that portion of the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES: October 28, 2021

Councilperson Madeam made a motion to approve the minutes from October 28, 2021 and Councilperson Morelli offered a second.

Roll Call: Madeam and Morelli voted in favor.

MEETING MINUTES: November 29, 2021

Chairperson Scott made a motion to approve the minutes from November 29, 2021 and Councilperson Madeam offered a second.

Roll Call: Blackwell, Butewicz, Madeam, Scott and Smith voted in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS: LAND RALLY - Chairperson Scott noted that council members typically attend the Annual NJ Land Conservation Rally held in central NJ. There are educational forums that are important for council members to participate in. During Covid, the forums were held online. When this year's information is available it will be sent out. The Council collectively needs 30 hours of education each year.

MUNICIPAL SPACE STEWARDSHIP – Council members will be asked to assist with the inspection of Open Space Properties. Homeowners bordering the properties will be notified. The ROSI (Recreation and Open Space Inventory) will be sent out and the council will review which properties should be inspected this year. New tax maps will be provided to everyone. They are also available online. Secretary DeFelice noted that the Green Acre signs required for the Livak Bridle Easement need to be installed.

HISTORIC BYWAYS – Chairperson Scott noted that this project will be tabled indefinitely.

BARNEGAT BAY PRESERVE – Township Committeeperson Davis requested a copy of the grant for the Barnegat Bay Preserve to understand the scope of the project.

NEW BUSINESS: 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS – Chairperson Scott noted that a Spring Newsletter was published, 5 Movie Nights were held and training hours were achieved. Activity was limited due to COVID.

NEWSLETTER - This year, the AG Council will publish the Spring newsletter and Open Space will handle the Fall newsletter.

EVENTS: CLAM BAKE– Open Space expects to hold a Clam Bake this year. It will depend on

how expensive seafood prices get. Councilperson Avila offered to assist Chairperson Scott with planning the event. Committeeperson Davis asked if there was a budget yet. Chairperson Scott replied that pricing can't be estimated until we get closer to the event date since the cost of seafood is the main expense. Ticket prices are usually around \$38-\$40.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: FINANCE – An updated report will be needed for next month.

GRANT WRITING – Chairperson Scott noted that a majority of the grants Millstone received were due to the work and effort of Pat Butch. Without her re-appointment, Open Space will have a difficult time achieving the same success. Councilperson Madeam offered to oversee grant writing. Committeeperson Davis noted that there should be a record of previous grants that can be referenced for future use.

STEWARDSHIP – Chairperson Scott explained that everyone on Open Space will participate in the Stewardship of Open Space Properties during the year. Councilperson Blackwell will assist with identifying and directing the clearing of trails since he has been involved previously with many of the trails. Secretary DeFelice mentioned that DPW will be asked to mark out part of the trail at Millstone Park to help identify the required easement in the lease agreement for the farmed areas.

Councilperson Morelli commented that the Open Space Council and the Township have benefited greatly from Pat Butch's involvement in the past in helping to identify, write and secure grants for Open Space and Farmland Preservation. She expressed concern that Pat was not re-appointed and the impact it will have for future grant awards. She also wanted to thank Nancy Grbelja and Rose Oxley for their dedication, expertise, guidance and knowledge shared with the Open Space Council over their many years of involvement.

At 8:26 p.m., Chairperson Scott made a motion to leave the regular session and enter into Executive Session. Councilperson Butewicz offered a second. By unanimous vote the Council left the Regular Session and entered into Executive Session.

At 9:23p.m. The Council returned to the Regular Meeting.

Seeing no further business, Chairperson Scott made a motion to adjourn and Councilperson Madeam offered a Second. Meeting adjourned at 9:24p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Andrew DeFelice, Open Space Preservation Council Secretary