



**COLTS NECK FARMLAND PRESERVATION
AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Farmland and Open Space Committee

3/12/12

Meeting Minutes

Attended by: Chairman Jim Stuart, Liaison Thomas Orgo, Brian Grant, John Jacoby, Thomas Morin, Pat Polgar, Richard Rehm and Al Yodakis
Absent: Virginia Mumford and Adele Sessa (both excused)

On a motion by Mr. Morin, and seconded by Mr. Rehm, the minutes of the January 30, 2012 meeting were approved, with the substitution of “only some” for “85%” in the first paragraph under Old Business.

Old Business

The cash flow report has not yet been obtained. Mr. Orgo reported that by the end of 2012, there will be \$432,244.00 available.

Mr. Stuart reported that he appeared before the Township Committee on behalf of this committee’s budget, and was granted \$400.00 for advertising. It was agreed that ads would be placed in two different publications, one in May, and one in September, and a targeted letter sent to Farmland Assessed property owners. Mr. Rehm presented a draft of an ad, which the committee edited. Mr. Yodakis presented a draft of a letter to Farmland Assessed property owners, which the committee edited.

Mr. Grant and Mr. Morin presented a chart of Farmland Preserved farms and a chart of deed-restricted lands. They had identified which farms have Preserved Farmland signs, and which are missing the signs. Mr. Grant and Mr. Morin contact Bob Bowden to write a letter to Blackburn, Spinella, McCrane, DeGroot and Amdur offering to procure signs for their properties.

Mrs. Sessa was not available to present a report on the application process. Mr. Orgo noted that Mrs. Sessa has a conflict with this committee’s meeting schedule.

Liaison Report

Mr. Jacoby distributed copies of the P.I.G. Policy 6, which replaces P.I.G. Policy 5. This states that ancillary costs will be shared thus: 25% municipality, 25% county, 50% state, if county procedures are followed, in order to ensure that municipalities work with the county. County-approved appraisers must be used.

New Business

A chart of County Target Farms was reviewed in detail, and it was decided that Sindlinger/DeGroot and Springsteen should be deleted from the list. Diacom, Vukovich, Maida, Mauro, Morris, Schlumpf and Snyder will be targeted. Mr. Stuart read the soils scores of several farms that had originally been on the P.I.G. list, but the scores were too low. Mr. Orgo explained that the score is based on the ideal of a yield of 70 bushels of corn per acre in a good year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM. Next meeting will be on Monday, May 14, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Terry
Secretary