



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

Farmland and Open Space Committee

4/10/17

Meeting Minutes

Attended by: Chairman Edward Eastman III, Liaison Thomas Orgo, David Barclay, Richard Rehm, Mike Stivala and Alternate Jena Cosimo

Absent: Abbey Feiler-Kober (excused), Thomas Morin (excused), Al Yodakis, and Alternate Janine Pinguelo

Mr. Eastman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. On a motion by Mr. Stivala, seconded by Mr. Eastman, the minutes of the February 13, 2017 meeting were approved.

Old Business

Mr. Eastman will address the Township Committee at the meeting of April 26 regarding a potential referendum to increase the dedicated tax for farmland preservation, from 0.12% to 0.25%, as it was originally. Discussion ensued regarding ways to educate the public, whether by letter, post card, signs.

Ms. Cosimo reported that the deGroot farmland preservation application was filed on April 3, as a non-profit. She recused herself from the matter, as she is handling the application.

New Business

Ms. Cosimo reported that the Monmouth Conservation Foundation will sponsor a “Kids for Conservation Family Day” on June 4 at Bucks Mill Park. The event will feature raptors, snakes and face painting. Adult admission is \$10.00. Children will be admitted free.

Ms. Cosimo asked if there had been discussion of strengthening the deed restriction on Colonial Farms through an easement, noting that deed restrictions do not always hold up. Mr. Orgo replied that there had been discussion only. Mr. Orgo stated that a greater concern is the property on Swimming River Road that probably has sewers and city water, and thus could be a target for affordable housing.

Liaison Report

Mr. Orgo announced that the Township Committee is prepared for the entry of Crystal Brook Farm into Farmland Preservation, and a check has been cut.

On a motion by Mr. Rehm, and seconded by Mr. Stivala, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM. Next meeting will be on Monday, May 8, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Terry
Secretary