



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

Farmland and Open Space Committee

03/12/18

Meeting Minutes

Attended by: Chair Jena Cosimo, Thomas Morin, Richard Rehm, Alternate Alison DeNoia, Liaison Thomas Orgo, David Barclay, Joanna Connelly, Abbey Feiler-Kober  
Excused: Kevin Walsh, Mike Stivala, Albert Yodakis Absent: Alternate Janine Pinguelo,

Ms. Cosimo called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2018 meeting. Mr. Rehm made the motion. Mr. Barclay seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.

The SADC certified a value for the de Groot farm based off of the appraisals commissioned. An offer to purchase the development rights to the farm was tendered to the family.

Monmouth Conservation will be submitting an application to the SADC through the non-profit program for funding to preserve the Druesne farm, a 20-acre farm located on Route 537. The Township Committee is supportive and partners are working on the specifics of the application to submit to the State. The application is due the beginning of April.

An application to preserve the Mosely Farm was also submitted to the SADC.

It is anticipated that each of the farmland preservation projects will close during different years, allowing the Town to not encumber the cost of all three projects at one time.

There was a discussion about the balance in the Town's Open Space and Farmland Trust Fund and the debt service that the Town is currently responsible for. The amortization of the debt service was questioned.

The Committee went on to discuss the Smith Farm that the Township purchased years ago and still owns. The Town is trying to determine what to do with the Farm, which is not preserved.

Mr. Orgo discussed an open space project in the pipeline that the Township is pursuing. The Town was able to secure grants for the acquisition, but the funds will need to be up fronted and will then be reimbursed.

The Committee had a discussion on deed restrictions versus conservation easements. Mr. Orgo will speak to the Town's attorney about the perpetuity of the deed restrictions placed on farms created as result of the cluster ordinance in Town.

**CADB Report**

Mr. Morin attended the most recent CADB meeting and updated the Committee on the agenda items from the meeting. Ms. Cosimo noted the need to nominate a member of this Committee to be the official liaison to the CADB by municipal resolution. Mr. Morin volunteered to be the liaison; the remainder of the Committee was supportive.

Ms. Cosimo alerted the Committee to another upcoming free deer management workshop that is being hosted by the DEP.

A flyer from Monmouth Conservation's Field to Farm initiative was shared with the Committee.

Ms. Cosimo attended the NJ Land Rally and provided a brief overview to the Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Yodakis, and seconded by Mr. Rehm, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM. Next meeting will be on **Monday, April 9th, at 7:30 PM.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jena Cosimo.