

Oakland Environmental Commission

February 5, 2019

- 1. Meeting called to order** at 7:35PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, David Blanke, Carol Peterson and Ali Fleeson were present. Pat Pignatelli attended as council liaison. Lee Haymon, Kevin Mauro and Alex Myers were excused.
- 2. Meeting Announcement:** This meeting is being held in accordance with the open public meetings law, duly announced, advertised, and posted in the municipal building.
- 3. Open to public** – Peter Kikot spoke about the origins of Great Oak Park.
- 4. Reorganization** – Nominations were made for chairperson. Nancy Krause and David Blanke were nominated. Each candidate received 3 votes. The election was tabled until next meeting when more commissioners will be present for a vote.
- 5. Meeting Minutes Review** from 11-13-18, and 12-4-18 meeting minutes were approved. 1-8-19 minutes were tabled till next meeting.
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. EC Self-Assessment** - David Blanke gave a summary of the 6 responses to the assessment worksheet. He will be distributing the results and asks that those who have not yet responded also add their input.
 - b. Roots for River Reforestation** – Carol Peterson reported that the grant for \$4,600 was approved to provide 498 trees and bushes to be planted near the C-1 stream area in Great Oak Park. Volunteers, including Scout groups, will take part in the plantings as well as the removal of invasive species.
- 7. New Business**
 - a.** 2019 Plan and Goals
 - b. FLOW film festival** – Plans for films are almost complete. Friday 3/22/2019 Oakland will host the film “Bag It” at the Public Library. The other 3 films will be shown Thursdays, 3/14/19, 3/28/19 and 4/4/2019 at the Wyckoff Public Library at 7PM each evening. Callie O’Neal has involved the IHHS Environmental Club.
 - c. Team up to Clean up** – Plans are in motion for a clean-up of town parks to take place Saturday, 4/27/2019 starting with breakfast at the Valley Middle School Auditorium. The sites to be covered will be discussed. De-snagging and bat box installation could be included. Spruce tree seedlings will be distributed.
- 8. Committee Updates**
 - a. Junior EC member update** - Callie O’Neal – Not present.
 - b. Town Council Update** - Pat Pignatelli reported that the 2nd appraisal of the Sandy Beach property was completed.
 - c. Great Oak Park Update** – Carol Peterson questioned the purpose of yellow stripes painted on certain trees in the Park, as this generally means that the trees are marked for removal. Nancy Krause plans to speak to Mike Guadagnino of the Park Committee for an explanation of their plans in absence of any permits for tree removal. Peter Kikot has offered to become the liaison to the Park Committee once his appointment to the Commission is official. He has familiarity with the Committee and its members and plans and shade tree ordinances.
 - d. Green Team Update** - Carol Peterson reported on the upcoming Styrofoam and plastic bag collection scheduled for April 28th at Borough Hall.
 - e. Recycling Update** – See Green Team report

- f.* Open Space Update - Erich Kamm continues to encourage the purchase of the Bi-County property south of Long Hill Road with County and other grants. The Commission also supports these efforts if a purchase is possible.
- g.* Communications - Gina Mayer-Costa is continuing to offer monthly newsletters.

9. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

- a.* Current Projects -
- b.* Review Plans – Ali Fleeson and Carol Peterson reviewed the construction plans for 91 West Oakland Ave. No comments were made.

10. Budget Status – Under discussion by Mayor and Council.

11. Close Meeting at 9:45 PM. Next meeting March 5, 7:30 PM. Minutes submitted by Jerri Angermueller, secretary.