

# **Oakland Environmental Commission**

## **June 5, 2018**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:32 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Alex Myer, Kevin Mauro, Carol Peterson and David Blanke attended. Lee Haymon, Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, and Michael Kozak were excused. Councilman Pignatelli and Junior EC member Calli O'Neal also attended.
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** – Junior EC member Calli O'Neal spoke on her participation in the High School Ambassador program to grade schools. She speaks to younger students about creating sustainable practices in the schools town-wide. She also listed ways she hopes to help Indian Hills High School become more involved in conservation and practice more sustainability. She is trying to get Sustainable Jersey accreditation for Indian Hills High School. Calli asked members to review the website to help give her more direction.
4. **Meeting Minutes Review from 3-6-18, 4-3-18, 5-1-18.** June minutes were approved.
5. **Old Business**
  - a. Potash Lake Recreation Area – sign discussions is on-going.
  - b. Stewart Woods Nature guide/map - Grant application was not accepted by ANJEC.
  - c. Butterfly Garden – Carol Peterson has been tending the 2 new sites in Great Oak Park. David Blanke's daughter designed signs which were printed and installed at the locations of the recent plantings. Carol reported that there are more milk-weed plants growing randomly in the Park. She has also planted other small native plants, such as Lamb's Ears, as a border for the plantings. Maintenance will continue to be needed.
  - d. Water Quality report – DPW clarified that the one well with higher levels of 1,4 Dioxane was only monitoring well, not used for drinking water. Further discussion was tabled until Lee Haymon is present to lead the discussion.
  - e. Town Carnival – David Blanke is coordinating preparations for Commission display at the booth. He has a schedule for manning the booth during the 4 day event. Recycling barrels and gift cards to local businesses are planned. Alex is bringing reusable shopping bags from Bergen County for visitors to the booth
  - f. Environmental review of Station Park report – The report was distributed by Nancy Krause. Several Commissioners made comments that will be passed on to the Station Park Committee that is planning for a pocket park in Bush Plaza.
  - g. Dogwood Hills School plastic bag ban – Students from Dogwood Hills School have created a display which is being installed in the Stewart Woods Bulletin Board case. Scout Mom Dana will work on SJ points with the Green Team for the plastic bag ban project.
6. **Committee Updates**
  - a. Town Council Update – 1. Pat Pignatelli reported Borough Attorneys are working on negotiations for a possible purchase of the Sandy Beach property. A developmental assessment is needed. 2. An ordinance regarding chicken ownership is being crafted.
  - b. Great Oak Park Update – No further report.
  - c. Green Team Update – It was reported that 400 points have been chosen to attempt as the Team works toward Silver Certification. Energy aggregation, Styrofoam recycling and an food waste recycling program are being discussed on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays each month
  - d. Recycling Update – Composting units for sale are from Bergen County Utilities Authority.

- e.* Open Space Update – Potash/Schuyler Lake -Alex Myers will research for the removal of abandoned transformers along the edge of Potash/Schuyler Lake. The NJDEP should have funds available to help with the removal.
- f.* Communications – website/crossroads – Gina Mayer-Costa asks that articles for the on-line newsletter be submitted by June 21<sup>st</sup>. Carol has information on a “Bat” man for an article for Bats, Bees and Butterflies.

**7. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**

- a.* Current Projects – Comments on current applications were written up by Nancy Krause and will be submitted to the Board of Adjustments. Holiday Bowl is planning an outdoor eating area. Apartments on Court House Place are being discussed.

**8. Budget Status** – Funds are available to be requested.

**9. Close Meeting** – Meeting adjourned at 9 PM. Next meeting July 3th, 7:30 PM. Minutes submitted by secretary Jerri Angermueller.