

# **Oakland Environmental Commission**

## **August 1, 2017**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Lee Haymon, Michael Kozak Kevin Mauro, and Alex Myers were present. Josh Lurie, Mike DaSilva, and Gina Mayer-Costa 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 – No public attended.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 6-6-17, 7-11-17. June minutes were approved.

### **5. Old Business**

- a. Pilgrim pipeline status - No new information
- b. Potash Lake Recreation Area – The trail is complete and open for walking.
- c. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout Project/ Nature guide/map – Reilly Beach is still intending to complete his project. The DPW will be contacted to remove fallen branches. Oak trees need to be protected from weed whackers. Plastic guards were offered. The Shade Tree Commission has advised that mulch should be applied to new trees on Borough property. Alex Myers will look into getting a Clean-Communities grant to print the nature guides for the trail.
- d. Open Space Plan – The update has begun with a walk with the Land Conservancy through the open-space properties including Great Oak Park, Bi-County property, the Skyline Drive properties and the Borough Recreation Fields. When the Land Conservancy has completed its initial draft, the Commission will review it.

### **6. New Business**

- a) Lead in drinking water fountains in schools – Initial testing was due to the State by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Alex Myers will research information on acceptable levels of contaminants. This information can be posted on line for public education.

### **7. Committee Updates**

- a. Town Council Update – Council liaison was not present.
- b. Great Oak Park Update – Lee Haymon reported on status. Fundraising is on-going for a Schwertfeger Memorial Dog Park within Great Oak Park. The brook running through the Park needs to be de-snagged. A September de-snagging event will be organized. Commission members can attend the next Park Committee meeting.
- c. Green Team Update - Oakland recertification is progressing. 110 points have been approved. 40 points are awaiting approval. Grant will be matched from Trust fund
- d. Recycling Update – Recreation fields have been provided with more recycling buckets along with garbage pails. A new recycling contract is being negotiated. More recycling by residents is needed to alleviate increasing collection costs.
- e. Open Space Update (Bi-County/Property/Tamarack/Sandy Beach) – Open-space update in progress.
- f. Communications – website/crossroads – Gina is working on website.

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

- a.* Current Projects – The RBARI application was approved for a minor subdivision and expansion of the animal shelter. The WAWA application is still being discussed before the Board of Adjustments.
- b.* Application to erect a digital billboard by Rt. 287 on Edison Avenue property was submitted. Comments on environmental issues are requested on this application. Issues mentioned were light pollution, driver distraction leading to increased potential for hazardous spills, and potential for interference in bird flight paths.

**9. Budget Status** – Sustainable Jersey bike rack grant match has been approved.

**10. Close Meeting** – Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM. Next meeting September 5th, at 7:30PM. Minutes submitted by secretary Jerri Angermueller.