

Oakland Environmental Commission

January 20, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers, and Peter Tuohy. Michael Kozak was 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. Reorganization – The following nominations were made and approved for 2015 positions: Nancy Krause – Chairwoman, Mark Ostapczuk, Vice chairman, Jerri Angermueller - Secretary
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 12/2/2014 – Minutes were reviewed and approved with amendments. The minutes will be posted on MyGreenOakland.org and the Borough's site. Nancy is posting the 2014 Annual Accomplishments draft on DropBox for changes or approval to facilitate submission to the Mayor & Council. A link will be sent by e-mail.
5. Old Business
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – No new information. An oil pipeline spill in Yellowstone River, Wyoming was reported.
 - b. Great Oak Park plant survey - Alex is working on updating his plant survey.
 - c. 2015 Film Festival – first meeting January 15 – Peter Tuohy attended the meeting in Wyckoff. The films are scheduled to be shown on 4 Thursday evenings in May at the Wyckoff Library conference room. Films are being evaluated and selected. Peter reported on Wyckoff Library's climate change display and programs titled "What it means to be Human".
6. New Business
 - a. Prescription Drug Disposal - Green Fair, 11- 4pm March 7th –Nancy has requested a table for Environmental Commission to promote awareness of the medication drop-off box at the Oakland Police Department. Jerri has contacted the Garden Club of Oakland to participate. Carole Holden of Franklin Lakes is inviting prospective participants from the FLOW area.
 - b. Salt storage has been observed at the Walgreen's parking lot. It was questioned as to the need for commercial companies to apply for a license for such storage.
 - c. Goals for 2015. – Nancy reported that an ANJEC Open-space Stewardship grant proposal can be submitted by April 1st. Volunteer work of 80 hours is required as the matching part of the grant funding up to \$1500. Land management plans are needed for the Great Oak Park and Stewart Woods. The trail around Potash Lake also needs maintenance, renewal and invasive species control. Town-wide clean-ups could be organized as YES clean-ups that may not be taking place anymore.
 - d. Rutgers Environmental Stewards Training Program – begins this month for anyone interested.
7. Committee Updates
 - a. Great Oak Park Update – Lee Haymon reported on the latest meeting. Sav-a-Tree started work on protecting the Great Oak by removing vines. The Eagle Scout projects are nearing completion. The Phase II report by Boswell Engineering is progressing.

- b. **Green Team Update** – Appointments for the Team have not yet been completed by the Mayor. Gina is looking for participation. The MyGreenOakland.org site has gone live.
 - c. **Recycling Update** – Nancy contacted Recycling Coordinator Eugene Mac Mahon. He reported that there is reduced market for plastic to be recycled. Currently Oakland is not being fined for improper recycling because it is still under a grace period. Gina will find out who the recycling company for Ramapo College is.
 - d. **Open Space Update** (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) – No new information.
 - e. **Communications** – website/crossroads – The MyGreenOakland.org website is up and running. Gina invited members to submit photographs to keep the site up-to-date. There is a page for the Green Team, the Environmental Commission, and links to sustainability sites. The site will have an ad for the upcoming Green Fair and film events as well as meeting minutes. The web address should be added to the OEC banner for the Carnival.
- 8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**
- a. Current Projects – No new construction is being discussed, per Lee Haymon.
- 9. Budget Status** – A temporary budget is in effect. The secretary will request that sufficient funds are allocated to pay ANJEC dues in a timely manner.
- 10. Close Meeting** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3rd at 7:30pm. The minutes are submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller

Oakland Environmental Commission

February 3, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Chairwoman Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Mark Ostapczuk, Erich Kamm and Alex Myers. Pat Pignatelli attended as Council Liaison.
2. This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, duly announced, advertised and posted in the Municipal Building.
3. The meeting was opened to the public. No one from the public attended or spoke.
4. Meeting minutes for review from 1/20/2015 were tabled for absent Commissioners.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. **Pilgrim Pipeline** – Commissioners are following progress as it becomes available.
 - b. **Park Plant Survey** – No report for the winter
 - c. **2015 Film Festival** – Planned for Thursdays at 7:30 PM in the Wyckoff Library on May 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. Films are being evaluated. Costs per town are proposed to be \$300.
 - d. **2015 Goals project/grants ideas** – Nancy plans to present a proposal for the ANJEC Stewardship Grant which is due March 31st. It will be presented to the Mayor & Council for their approval of volunteer work to be done on the Potash Lake property or on another park or boat dock. Pat Pignatelli suggested asking DPW Superintendent Marcucilli about buying Gold Trout for a special Ramapo River fishing event. This would promote water quality stewardship for better fishing quality. Children could be awarded prizes for best catch after the fall trout-stocking season. Other possible stewardship grant projects were discussed
 - e. **Green Fair** – Saturday, March 7 at Ramapo Hill School 11AM – 4 PM. OEC will have information on public Prescription Drug disposal at Police Headquarters in Oakland. Contamination of ground water due to improper medication disposal into septic systems will be emphasized along with hazards of unwanted run-off into Borough storm drains.
6. **New Business**
 - a. **Road Salt Storage** – Pat Pignatelli will investigate the possible commercial storage of salt in the parking lot at the intersection of Ramapo Valley Rd. and West Oakland Ave.
 - b. **YES Club town clean-up** Erich Kamm will inquire whether the Oakland Schools are planning to continue the Youth/Environment/Seniors (YES) semi-annual clean-up program.
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. **Great Oak Park update** – Mark attended the latest meeting. Pat Pignatelli reported the results of Sav-A-Tree's aging core from the Great Oak. It was found to be 275 years old.
 - b. **Green Team Update** – Next meeting is February 9th.
 - c. **Recycling Update** – No report
 - d. **Open-Space Update** – The NJ DEP has posted a status update to the Bi-County property off of Long Hill Rd. Limited development is being allowed. Sierra Club will appeal ruling.
 - e. **Communications** – Website/CrossRoads – CrossRoads submissions are due by March for the April edition. Open-space purchase of Bi-County property could be proposed.
8. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustments Update**
 - a. **Current projects** - Second phase of flood-plain buyout applications is starting.
9. **Budget Status** – Budget funds have been requested to cover ANJEC dues
10. **Meeting adjourned** – 8:30 PM adjournment. Next meeting is Tuesday, March 3, 2015.
11. Minutes submitted by secretary Jerri Angermueller.

Oakland Environmental Commission

March 3, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Michael Kozak, Mark Ostapczuk, Peter Tuohy, and Alex Myers. Erich Kamm arrived during the meeting. Councilman Pat Pignatelli attended as liaison.
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 – Kirsten DaSilva and Ryan Schwertfeger attended from the public.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 1/20/2015, 2/3/2015. 1/20/15 minutes were tabled. 2/3/2015 minutes were approved with 2 amendments.

5. Old Business

a. Pilgrim pipeline status – A letter from PSE&G on its stand to refuse access to Pilgrim Pipeline to PSE&G Right-of-Way was delivered to the Oakland Environmental Commission. Pilgrim can apply for public utility status to appeal ruling. Chatham Twp. distributed a letter they addressed to PSE&G asking them to deny use of their ROW to Pilgrim Pipeline Holdings, Inc.

b. 2015 Film Festival – May 7, 14, 21, and 28 – Nancy Krause and Peter Tuohy are still evaluating films. Flyers will be distributed to students to submit 3 minute videos on environmental issues. Publicizing of the Festival will include newspapers, CrossRoads and social media. Writing a letter to the editor of Suburban News would bring attention to the event. The Borough website will publicize. A request can be made to the Public Events Committee for possible funding of Oakland's share of the \$300 film expense. Michael Kozak will submit a request from the Environmental Comm.

c. Know the Bear Facts presentation is Tuesday, April 14th, at 7:30 PM at the Senior Center.

d. Green Fair March 7: EC table on Prescription Drug Disposal and Groundwater protection. Residents will receive information on soil sampling and drug drop-off at Police building. Clean-water pledge signatures will be collected to promote protection of our water resources. WEC will explain their recycling practices and that plastic bags can be disposed of at local food stores. Plans are being considered to make the Green Fair an annual event.

e. YES Club/Town Clean Up- Kirsten DaSilva worked with Judy Vihonski and the YES group. She offered to help continue with this event. Per Erich Kamm, no YES clean-up has been scheduled yet for this year. A clean-up of Great Oak Park is scheduled for April 25th. This could preclude the need for a YES clean-up, or be done in conjunction with a town clean-up. OEM is preparing for a clean-up of Skyline Dr., but that would not involve child participation.

f. ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant- due April 1 – Potash Lake Recreation Area use: Nancy is investigating possible uses of the ANJEC grant. A split-rail fence needs repair, and a sign is needed to designate the site. A fishing derby should take place following the fall stocking of the Ramapo River. Wyckoff has run fishing derbies for 33 years. Alex Myers will investigate.

6. New Business

a. Road salt storage rules – Superintendent Marcucilli was questioned about salt storage rules. His staff follows rules for municipalities. Private parking lot owners should prevent loss of their own salt through tarps or similar protected storage. Walgreen's Mall owner, Eden Oakland, LLC, could be questioned, but salt is currently not on site anymore.

7. Committee Updates

*a. **Great Oak Park*** Update – Mark Ostapczuk reported that a clean-up is scheduled for April 25th, Saturday, at 10 AM. Refreshments can be requested from Public Events Committee. Boy Scout Eric Kozak has completed his Eagle trail-blazing project. Boy Scout Will Fern's project involves placing markers and arrows along the trails for use in guiding emergency response personnel in case of such need. A 3-d laser-cut sign is under design. A grand-opening is being proposed for May with parking accessed via Doty Road. The Phase II engineering study will continue following the spring thaw.

*b. **Green Team Update*** – Kirsten is awaiting appointments by Mayor. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 3/16/2015 at the Senior Center 7:30PM.

*c. **Recycling Update*** – Oakland will now be recycling only plastics #1, 2, 5. Publicizing this change of rules is necessary in encouraging compliance. Peter Marcalus may have access to videos showing proper recycling practices.

*d. **Open Space Update*** (Bi-County/ Property/Tamarack) – Borough Administrator Kunze is in discussions on this matter. Erich Kamm will be keeping the Commission informed. Michael Kozak and Erich Kamm are still working toward a Tamarack Clean-up at the Scout Camporee this summer.

*e. **Communication*** – Website/Crossroads article in by March 6 for April distribution. Gina has been continuing updates on the MyGreenOakland.org website. She has included meeting minutes, flyers from the Green Fair and plans to add the clean water pledge. Gina will write an article for the CrossRoads Spring edition. Peter Tuohy will write the summer article for the Commission.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

a. Current Projects – nothing new.

9. Budget Status – budget is pending

10. Close Meeting (next meeting April 7th at 7:30pm). Meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.

11. Minutes submitted by secretary Jerri Angermueller.

Visit the new Environmental Commission Website at www.mygreenoakland.org

Oakland Environmental Commission

April 7, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, Mark Ostapczuk, and Mike DaSilva. Members excused were Lee Haymon, Michael Kozak, Alex Myer and Peter Tuohy. Councilman Pignatelli 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 - No one from the public spoke.

4. Meeting Minutes Review from 1/20/2015, 3/3/2015 – Tabled

5. Old Business

A. Pilgrim pipeline status – The CAP Coalition held a meeting at the Oakland Library concerning the pipeline proposal. Nancy Krause and Harriet Shugarman Of Wyckoff attended to hear the current status of the project. As long as Pilgrim does not have public utility status, they have no eminent domain rights. Councilman Pignatelli reminded everyone that an oil spill in Oakland would cause a health threat through contamination of drinking water.

a. 2015 Film Festival – May 7, 14, 21, and 28 - Films have been chosen and flyers are being designed and distributed by Nancy and Gina. Notices will be made on websites.

b. YES Club/Town Clean Up – Program is in transition. Girl Scouts are looking for cleanup activities. Great Oak Park cleanup is scheduled for Saturday April 25 at 10am. The May clean-up of Skyline Drive will be for adults only.

c. Potash Lake Recreation Area – Nancy will continue to collect details to use in a grant request in 2016. Saturday, April 11th the OEC will meet at the boat dock to inspect the condition of the lake and its surrounding trail and park. Photos will be taken to document the current condition of the trail and park. James Construction could be invited to provide new gravel to restore the parking area.

A fishing derby can be scheduled for Labor Day weekend this year. Jim Barry could be asked to make a video of Potash/Schuyler Lake and Great Oak Park for Oakland's Channel 77 TV station.

6. New Business

a. Review of Environmentally Protective Ordinances - Nancy asked commissioners to choose Borough planning or zoning ordinances to review for possible conservation updates. Can open space be better protected? The sewage catchment of a waste water management plan could be reviewed. ANJEC has sample ordinances for comparisons. Mark Ostapczuk spoke about United Water's ozone treatments as a sustainable water treatment method.

b. Town Carnival plans – Gina will send out a schedule of participation. The Carnival is scheduled for Wednesday – Saturday, June 24 – 27th at the usual times. It was suggested that we have a plastic fishing game to remind residents to keep our road & waterways clean. The NRI open-space maps should be displayed as they were last year.

7. Committee Updates

- a.* Great Oak Park Update – The clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, 4/25/15 at 10AM. An opening in May is being planned. The Eagle Scout projects are still in progress. Trails will be designated with names and signs for emergency response situations. Brush and undergrowth is being cleared for emergency response vehicles and safe parking.
- b.* Green Team Update – The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 20th to do new Sustainable Jersey planning. Hopefully the Borough administration will continue their cooperation. Nancy discussed with Wyckoff and Franklin Lakes EC's whether the FLOW Green Fair should be an annual event or take place every 2 years.
- c.* Recycling Update – Nancy is scheduled to speak to the Senior Club on May 28th at 12:30 PM to keep them up to date about the new recycling standards.
- d.* Open Space Update (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) – Erich Kamm said that he spoke with Adam Strobel about Bergen County's plans for the Tamarack property. Erich will follow up with information about the Camporee and the County.
- e.* Communications – website/crossroads – NJ Fish & Wildlife report on Bears has been announced in the Cross Roads, on the Borough website and on GreenOakland.org.
- 8.** Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

 - a.* Current Projects – No new projects have been announced.
- 9.** Budget Status ANJEC dues have been paid. Eco-Film sponsorship is being requested from the Oakland Public Events Committee.
- 10.** Close Meeting (next meeting May 5, 7:30pm). Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM. Minutes submitted by Jerri Angermueller – secretary.

Visit the new Environmental Commission Website at www.mygreenoakland.org

Oakland Environmental Commission

May 5, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Mark Ostapczuk, and Michael Kozak. Members excused were Erich Kamm, Peter Tuohy, Gina Mayer-Costa, Mike DaSilva and Alex Myers. Councilman Pignatelli 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 - No one from the public attended.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 1/20/2015, 3/3/2015, 4/7/2015 – tabled due to absences.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – Nancy attended a meeting of the Coalition Against Pipeline (CAP). She finds that opposition is growing. News articles reported that the Pilgrim Company is continuing its application for the project despite PSE&G's denial of use of their pipeline routes for the crude oil transport by Pilgrim Pipeline.
 - b. 2015 Film Festival – Thursdays May 7, 14, 21, and 28 are ready for the events.
 - c. YES Club/Great Oak Park Clean Up/ Skyline Drive – 82 people were signed up to participate in the 4/25/15 clean-up. Many bags of refuse were removed from the Park. Refreshments were provided by the Public Events Committee following the cleanup. Scouts and Valley Middle School students also participated. Sunday, a Skyline Drive clean-up was attended by approximately 15 – 20 adult residents and CERT Team members.
 - d. Potash Lake Recreation Area – Commission members did a walk through with their families on April 11th. The paths were generally clean, but some of the wooden rails were rotted at their bases. It was explained that the rail posts need concrete footings to protect from weathering. An Eagle Scout project to repair the railings with help of an ANJEC grant was suggested.
 - e. Town Carnival plans – Nancy passed around the scheduling sign-up sheet from Gina.
 - f. Bear Program recap – The program was well attended. Positive comments were made about the presentation. Several residents had questions which were answered.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Review of Environmentally Protective Ordinances
 - ➔ Anti-smoking ordinance is being considered by the Board of Health to include the Great Oak Park and Stewart Woods. They are requesting OEC support of this move.
 - b. Bird Houses and Bike Rack donations – Larry Levine of Oakland is offering to buy items for Stewart Woods. He needs OEC suggestions for actual items. Members can meet with him at 11 AM in the Woods on Thursday, May 7th.
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Great Oak Park Update – Letters of thanks can be sent to the Suburban News to let participants know that their clean-up work on April 25th was appreciated. A grand opening has not yet been scheduled until access availability is completed.
 - b. Green Team Update – Michael Kozak expressed the Team's hope that Borough officials will increase their participation in supporting Sustainable Jersey.
 - c. Recycling Update – No report
 - d. Open Space Update (Bi-County/ Pinnacle Property/Tamarack) – Nancy was contacted by Judith Sullivan concerning a gathering planned in Wayne by the N.J. Highlands Coalition near the Bi-County property. It is proposed for Monday, May 18th at 4 PM.

Erich Kamm is still in touch with Adam Strobel of Bergen County about the Tamarack property. An investigation needs to be scheduled to consider a Camporee cleanup date.

- e.* Communications – website/crossroads – Peter Tuohy has given a deadline for article submissions for the summer Cross Roads articles. He is scheduled to write an article for the OEC.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

- a.* Current Projects – limited activity. Lee Haymon was asked to discuss sustainability issues with the Planning Board. Gina Steele had suggested sustainable ordinances, but she is no longer a Board member.

9. Budget Status – The budget has been passed. Payment of Film Festival expenses will be requested from the Public Events Committee. Nancy expects costs near \$100 that need to be covered by Oakland.

10. Close Meeting (next meeting June 2, 7:30pm). The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Visit the new Environmental Commission Website at www.mygreenoakland.org

Oakland Environmental Commission

June 2, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members attending were Lee Haymon, Alex Myers, Gina Mayer-Costa, Michael Kozak, Erich Kamm, Mark Ostapczuk
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 comments
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 1/20/2015, 3/3/2015, 4/7/2015, 5/5/2015 – Minutes were approved with amendments.

5. Old Business

- a. Pilgrim pipeline status – Nancy has been receiving e-mails concerning opposition from towns and organizations. The recent California oil spill of 105K gallons is one event which has triggered deep concern. Natural gas has been historically safer to transport.
- b. 2015 Film Festival – May 7, 14, 21, and 28 recap - 30 to 40 people attended each film and the discussions which followed. Oakland provided the flyer designed by Gina and Nancy. Nancy will find out what Oakland's share of the expenses is.
- c. Potash Lake Recreation Area – Following the recent walk along trails, a need for deep rooted plants to stabilize the water's edge was seen. A tree-planting could be done.
- d. Town Carnival plans/sign ups – Sign-up sheet was circulated. The new open-space maps will be displayed. A display or flyer to explain the newest recycling guidelines is needed. Michael will contact Eugene Mac Mahon for further details.
- e. Bird Houses and Bike Rack donation Nancy circulated a thank you letter for approval. Pat Pignatelli will read the letter at a Mayor & Council meeting with donor Larry Levine's permission. Nancy will send the letter to Mr. Levine with appreciation.

6. New Business

- a. Review of Environmentally Protective Ordinances
 - ➔ Anti-smoking ordinance for public parks would earn 10 Sustainable Jersey points. A no-smoking sign in Great Oak Park could limit cigarette butts in park. E-cigs have also been found to be dangerous. The Borough no-smoking ordinance needs to be amended to include Great Oakland Park and e-cigs in the restrictions.

7. Committee Updates

- a. Great Oak Park Update – Sunday, June 14th at 10 AM is the official Park opening. Benches have been set up around the Great Oak Tree as part of an Eagle Scout project. Dogs on leashes are allowed in the Park.
- b. Green Team Update – No recent meeting
- c. Recycling Update – Nancy gave a talk and demonstration of the new recycling process to residents at the Oakland Senior Center. Materials to be recycled have changed again and need to be displayed visually. Plastic from containers with necks can be reused by industry. Lower oil prices make reuse of plastic less economical.

- d.* Open Space Update (Bi-County/ Pinnacle Property/Tamarack) – Michael Kozak will speak to John Biale of Bergen County about the condition of Tamarack Park. Erich Kamm suggested that Pat Pignatelli should contact Adam Strobel about a Tamarack clean-up so the area can be used for camping. Erich quoted articles on the DEP's effort to purchase the Bi-County property. Green Acres purchases need to be applied for by a seller. Speeches at Park dedication could support open-space acquisition.
- e.* Communications – website/Crossroads – Peter Tuohy is writing an article for the Crossroads newsletter.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

- a.* Current Projects – Sidewalks should be put on builders' checklist.
- b.* Meeting Schedule – No meeting in May.

9. Budget Status – Budget has been passed.

10. Close Meeting (next meeting July 7, 7:30pm). Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.
Minutes are submitted by Jerri Angermueller – Secretary

Oakland Environmental Commission

July 7, 2015

1. Meeting was called to order by Chair Nancy Krause at 7:45 PM. Members present were Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, Mark Ostapczuk and Peter Tuohy. Lee Haymon and Michael Kozak 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
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 6/2/2015. Minutes were accepted with amendments.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – The NJ State Assembly passed a resolution opposing the construction of the Pilgrim Pipeline in NJ.
 - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area – Nancy presented a proposal for trail maintenance to be presented to the Borough Administrator. (See attached) She asked for comments on the plan. Mark said the Oakland Emergency Management team looks for tree snags to clean up in the river. An ANJEC grant could be used to help restore the area and increase native plants. The Flood Commission also has mosquito control funds that could be used to improve river flow around the lake. Mark will speak to Roy Bauberger of OEM. Nancy will speak to Pat Pignatelli for partnering suggestions and how best to move forward.
 - c. Town Carnival recap – The Carnival was well-attended and many residents discussed recycling with Commission members. The recycling pamphlet designed by Erich Kamm's daughter, Kelsey, was distributed. Copies are still available for distribution.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Snags in Ramapo River – No further discussion.
 - b. Library showcase – In September this commission is providing a display for the library.
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Town Council Update – No report
 - b. Great Oak Park Update – The Park is now officially open. There has been discussion as to the impact of benches around the Great Oak Tree. Soil compaction is an issue for the root system of the tree. Mark will check with Michael Guadagnino about this issue. The Shade Tree Commission advises continued maintenance of the tree.
 - c. Green Team Update – No meetings have been held recently. A smoke-free ordinance for the Borough parks and further publicity for the police station drug drop-off program are issues which continue to need local support.
 - d. Recycling Update – Residents inquired about the recycling status of bottle caps.
 - e. Open Space Update (Bi-County/Property/Tamarack) – Bergen County Free-holder Maura De Nicola is interested in a clean up of the Tamarack property.
 - f. Communication – website/Crossroads- Peter Tuohy composed an article for the summer issue.
8. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment** Update
 - a. Current Projects – No new projects reported
9. **Budget Status** – A bill for \$149.20 will be submitted to the Public Events Committee for reimbursement of Oakland's share of the expenses for the FLOW Green Film Festival.
10. Close Meeting – The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. Next meeting: August 4, 7:30pm. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller

Oakland Environmental Commission

August 4, 2015

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Nancy Krause at 7:30 PM. Members present were Lee Haymon, Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, Mark Ostapczuk, and Peter Tuohy. Councilman Pat Pignatelli attended. Michael Kozak 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 – No comments
 4. Meeting Minutes Review from 7/7/2015 – Minutes approved with amendments
 5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – Nancy attended a Committee Against Pilgrim Pipeline (CAP) meeting. They advise local cooperation between municipalities to reach results. Oakland's opposition to the project should be forwarded to Bergen County Freeholders via Mayor & Council notification.
 - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area & Snags in Ramapo River – Pat Pignatelli suggested engaging Boy Scouts in clean-up or renewal project. Nancy will contact Martin Treich as Eagle Scout liaison. The Shade Tree Commission can be approached for cooperation. Anti-erosion mats could be placed near the lake's edge as an alternative to planting of hardy, erosion-resistant grasses or shrubs. Electrical transformers at the site need to be removed.
 6. **New Business**
 - a. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout Project – Reilly Beach is ready to move forward on nature trail with kiosk and stations. The construction official will assist with planning. Reilly needs help with brochure content. Alex Myers was approved as assistant for this Eagle project. Gina will check for QR code access on pamphlets. Current trail map needs to be updated. Lee will visit site and evaluate conditions. Gina will enter photos on MyGreenOakland.org website.
 7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Town Council Update – Councilman Pignatelli reaffirmed that the Borough still supports working with Bergen County to facilitate a purchase of the remaining Bi-County property. An affordable price must still be determined. Green Acres and Highlands Coalition funds may be available. Mr. Levine was thanked for his donations at a recent council meeting.
 - b. Great Oak Park Update – Erich Kamm has been suggested to replace Mark Ostapczuk on this committee, pending Mayor & Council approval. Mark reported that OEM does not plan any further clean-ups for this year. The Park is now open to the public for passive use.
 - c. Green Team Update – No report
 - d. Recycling Update – Resident Helen Sena asked Nancy Krause for an update on recycling guidelines. Recycling coordinator Eugene MacMahon is still out on sick leave, but Jerri will get information on any update to recycling issues. Samples will be displayed in the showcase of the Oakland Public Library in September by Commission members. Gina will work on brochure.
 - e. Open Space Update (Bi-County/Property/Tamarack) – See Town Council update.
 - f. Communications – website/Crossroads – Gina would like to have her Recycling display high-lighted in the next Crossroads. Peter Tuohy said that won't be until the November issue.
 8. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**
 - a. Current Projects – Use of solar panels are being encouraged. New school parking lot entrances at Indian Hills High School are being discussed and work is progressing.
 9. Budget Status – Funds are available for attendance at the annual ANJEC Congress
 10. Close Meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. Next meeting September 1, 7:30PM. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller

Oakland Environmental Commission

September 1, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members attending included Lee Haymon, Mark Ostapczuk, Peter Tuohy, and Alex Myers. Councilman Pat Pignatelli attended. Erich Kamm, Michael Kozak, Gina Mayer-Costa and Mike Di Silva 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 the public – No one from the public spoke.
4. Meeting minutes review – August minutes were approved with amendments.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim Pipeline – Councilmen Pignatelli and Visconti attended the Bergen County Freeholders public meeting to make comments on the issue. Approximately 20 people attended. Nancy is staying informed on Pilgrim Pipeline updates.
 - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area – No updates made. Issues are still pending.
 - c. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout project/ Nature trail & map – Reilly Beach's project was approved by the Mayor & Council. Alex and Nancy have agreed to work with the Scout. Alex and Lee each had walked the site recently to re-familiarize themselves with possible points of interest. Kiosk by Rt. 202 should be visible from the road. One bench will be moved within the park along Rt. 202 and the DPW will be setting rocks at entrance to restrict cars from entering the site. Stakes are currently marking points of interest. Nancy, Lee and Alex are meeting Wednesday to review points of interest.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Library Display – Commission members visited display to offer comments on display as set up by Nancy. Articles indicate what is recyclable and what is not. Pamphlets will be added to display. Councilman said recycling trust fund is available for expenses.
 - b. Distribution of Recycling fliers – The brochure designed by Gina was discussed with the Borough. The flyer can be sent out with the annual recycling bulletin from the recycling coordinator.
7. **Committee updates**
 - a. Town Council update – Mr. Pignatelli spoke about several points covered at the Council meetings. The Land Conservancy had spoken about efforts to purchase the Bi-County tract for the Borough.
 - b. Great Oak Park update – C-1 stream de-snagging in the park's brook is needed. New members are being considered for the committee. The Phase II study is progressing slowly. Boswell Engineers will be doing more soil testing.
 - c. Green Team update – No report
 - d. Recycling update – Recycling was discussed under Library exhibit
 - e. Open- Space update – Progress on Camp Tamarack has not been reported from Bergen County.
 - f. Communications – website/Cross Roads – Peter Tuohy said he had no new report.
8. **Planning Board** – Lee reported that activity is low. Farm animal status for animals being harbored in residential areas in town has been discussed.

9. **Budget Status** – Members interested in attending the annual ANJEC Congress should apply now for their registration fee now. The congress is Friday Oct. 9th – 9AM to 3 PM.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. Next meeting is Oct. 6th at 7:30 PM. Jerri Angermueller-Sec.

Oakland Environmental Commission

October 6, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Gina Mayer-Costa, Erich Kamm, Mike DaSilva, Lee Haymon and Peter Tuohy. Alex Myers, Michael Kozak, and Mark Ostapczuk were excused. Councilman Pignatelli 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 – There was no public comment.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 9/1/2015 – Approval was tabled.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – The proposed Ordinance on unregulated pipelines was given no opinion by the Planning Board. The Mayor& Council tabled the Ordinance at their last meeting. The Ordinance can be re-introduced at a future meeting. Lee proposed that the Commission request new discussion and vote. This Commission would submit comments to support a positive M&C vote.
 - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area/Snags – Scout Mentor Martin Treich suggested that new Eagle Scout projects could be generated to improve this area.
 - c. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout Project / Nature guide/map – Nancy and Alex determined several sites to suggest to the Boy Scout for the trail. The DPW installed boulders to keep vehicles out of park.
 - d. Distribution of Recycling flier – The display was removed from the library by the end of September. Gina's flyer will be available on the Borough website and on Mygreenoakland.org. Councilman Pignatelli is discussing using the flyer for town-wide distribution at year end.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Stream clean up at GO Park – October 11 – Girl Scout/EC project – Lee will lead a group of residents including Boy & Girl Scouts on a morning clean-up and de-snagging of the C-1 stream flowing through the Park. Mr. Dean of Valley Middle School is planning to do training on invasive plant species including removal. It was suggested that the Audubon Society or a 4-H group could be invited to do programs there.
 - b. ANJEC Environmental Achievement Award for Flow Film Festival – Nancy and Jerri will be attending ANJEC's annual congress where the 3 towns will be recognized for the Film Festival.
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Town Council Update – Pat Pignatelli said he will bring the ordinance concerning unregulated pipe lines before the Council again if the Environmental Commission is in favor of supporting it.
 - b. Great Oak Park Update – No report
 - c. Green Team Update – No report
 - d. Recycling Update – Oakland's recycling program is currently not generating income as low oil prices make it economically unviable.
 - e. Open Space Update (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) Erich shared the Borough's grant application for the current Bi-County tract which has come up for possible purchase. Borough representatives will do a presentation before the County Freeholders in request of \$4.25 million in November. A vote will be held in January 2016. Affordable housing rules are still a consideration for construction
 - f. Communications – website/crossroads – Gina updates the website regularly. October 19 is the next deadline to submit an article to the Cross Roads.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

- a.* Current Projects – The Board recently voted “No opinion” on the non-allowance of unregulated pipeline ordinance which would have prohibited such in the Borough. The Mayor& Council tabled the ordinance based on the advice of the Planning Board. Lee plans to attend the next Planning Board meeting to discuss reconsideration of the ordinance.
- b.* A site-plan was submitted for 20 Potash Road where a spice-packing factory is requesting permission to add an air-filtration system to the outside of the building. The plan will be reviewed.

9. Budget Status – The Budget for 2016 needs to be submitted by 10/26/2015.

- a.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. (next meeting Tuesday, November 10, 7:30pm). Minutes were submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.

Oakland Environmental Commission

November 10, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Gina Mayer-Costa, Peter Tuohy, Alex Myers, and Mark Ostapczuk. Michael Kozak and Erich Kamm were excused. Councilman Pat Pignatelli 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 – Don Sena of 47 Thackeray spoke on the proposed ordinance to restrict unregulated pipelines in Oakland. He asked how the Environmental Commission could encourage The Planning Board to advise the Mayor & Council to pass the ordinance. Lee will speak at the next Planning Board meeting, and invited other commissioners to attend and speak on the importance of keeping Oakland's aquifer safe. Comments made included: NJ State has no siting ordinance on hazardous pipelines. Boroughs have authority to regulate on their property. The oil company would have to sue all towns with such ordinances. Pilgrim is not a public utility; it is a private company. NJ Highlands needs to support the opposition for the area. A herpetologist could help support sensibility of the proposed path of the pipeline. The buffer zone for vernal ponds in the Highlands Preservation area is 1000 ft. Nancy will e-mail the OEC report and comments to the Planning Board secretary for the Board's consideration. Mahwah's Planning Board is meeting 11/23/15 to consider a similar ordinance. The NY/NJ Trail Conference and Rutgers are good resources..
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 9/1/2015, 10/6/2015 approved with amendments.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – Nancy attended a climate and energy forum at Ramapo College where local resolutions against the Pilgrim Pipeline were discussed.
 - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area/Snags – No new activity
 - c. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout Project begins/ Nature guide/map – Reilly Beach is working on the project at home. Alex is researching the inclusion of the QR code.
 - d. Stream clean up at GOP – October 11 – Girl Scout/EC project – Results were positive
 - e. ANJEC Environmental Congress follow-up – ANJEC's next open-space stewardship grant round is due by January 31, 2016. Suggestions are being considered.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Update NJ State water supply plan -Mark Ostapczuk will investigate the updates to the NJ State water supply plan. The Water Supply plan is an important safeguard for ground water purity including hazardous material transport near water sources.
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Town Council Update – Pipeline issue is being discussed. The Borough Master Plan needs updated safeguards for our aquifer, including Highland's protection.
 - b. Great Oak Park Update – Lee Haymon is attending the meetings. No new activity
 - c. Green Team Update – No new activity
 - d. Recycling Update – Gina has contacted the Recycling Coordinator to have the pamphlet included in the Borough recycling mailing. Black & white copies are available for public distribution.

e. Open Space Update (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) – Erich had distributed an e-mail concerning the grant application for funds to purchase the Bi-County property. The grant application amount is currently at \$5 million. Copy of the e-mail is attached:

Re. Sentry Ridge/Pinnacle/High Mountain Extension:

We arranged for the Bergen County Director of Open Space (Adam Strobel) and the County Trust Fund Executive Director (Robert Abbatomarco), along with a number of Freeholder Advisory Committee members, to visit the property on Saturday, October 24. OEC Members Nancy Krause, Mike DaSilva, and I were also in attendance. Oakland resident Betty Broek was kind enough to allow the County to park the van in her driveway and she also acted as tour guide. The OEC Members and Mrs. Broek did a fantastic job in describing features and characteristics of the property, along with projected construction locations.

On Monday, October 26 the Bergen County Open Space Advisory Committee heard Oakland's funds request application, which was presented by Aaron Cela (The Land Conservancy) and our Borough Administrator Richard Kunze. They prepared a thorough and persuasive presentation.

On November 30 the County Advisory Committee will be holding deliberations for final funding recommendations, so there will be more to report at next month's meeting.

Some Commentary/Feedback:

When you are up on the mountain, it is hard to imagine that we live in one of the most densely populated areas in the country. And, when you are enveloped in the peace of the woods, it is even harder to imagine the plans for the blasting, roads, houses, bridges, destruction, etc. planned for the site. I believe it was immensely helpful for the county committee members to visit the site, instead of just looking at a paper map, and Nancy's and Mike's expertise was invaluable- they really did a great service to our commission and Oakland.

f. Communications – website/crossroads – CrossRoads will be distributed on Monday. Peter Tuohy has written an article on recycling and other environmental issues.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

a. Current Projects – Pipeline discussion as covered in discussion above. The Children's Therapy Center sent a septic proposal for 125 Bauer Drive for review by the Commission.

b. Meeting Schedule – Thursday, Nov. 12th at Senior Center – Pipeline discussion.

9. Budget Status – A budget proposal for 2016 has been submitted and is awaiting review.

10. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. Next meeting has been moved to Tuesday, December 8th at 7:30pm. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.

Oakland Environmental Commission

December 8, 2015

1. **Open Meeting** – Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause, Members present were Lee Haymon, Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers, Erich Kamm, Mark Ostapczuk, Mike De Silva and Peter Tuohy. Michael Kozak was 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 the Public** – No member of the public was present to speak.
4. **Meeting Minutes review** – Minutes for 11/10/2015 were passed with amendments.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. **Pilgrim Pipeline Status** – The Oakland Planning Board is scheduled at its Thursday meeting to discuss creating an ordinance prohibiting unregulated pipelines within Borough borders. Pilgrim has submitted an application to New York State and plans to submit an application in New Jersey before year-end. CAPP will provide information at a regional Mayors meeting on 12/16/2015 to guide local governments in creating viable ordinances. Lee Haymon explained that permitting for a private pipeline project is an extensive process. Many permits must be pursued. The Borough planner and engineer are drafting information for the Planning Board to review in preparation for creating an ordinance in compliance with the Master Plan of Oakland. The Mahwah Borough Attorney (Brian Chewcaskie) has found that the Mahwah Master Plan encourages protection of its water supply.
 - b. **Potash Lake Recreation Area** – Nancy Krause intends to pursue applying for an ANJEC open- space grant to use to improve the quality of the open-space/ lake area. January 31 is the due date.
 - c. **Stewart Woods Eagle Scout project/ Nature Trail** – Alex Myers has found information on using QR codes on trail posts. He will continue working with Reilly Beach on the nature trail project.
 - d. **Statewide Water Plan** – Mark Ostapczuk is continuing to research the State Water plan: a 32-page document from 1996 that is available to the public on-line. NJ State agencies are looking to update the document according to current needs.
6. **New Business**
 - a. **Commission re-appointments** – Gina Mayer-Costa, Michael Kozak, Mark Ostapczuk, and Mike DaSilva have submitted citizenship forms for re-appointment to new terms.
 - b. **Annual Accomplishments 2015** – Commissioners are encourage to submit draft proposals to be used in the annual report for the Mayor& Council.
 - c. **Annual Goals for 2016** – Proposals should be presented at the first 2016 meeting.
7. **Committee updates**
 - a. **Town Council update – No report**
 - b. **Great Oak Park Update** – Lee Haymon attended the latest meeting. The Phase II study by the Borough Engineer is continuing. Recommendations for protecting the Park will be made. Nancy Krause made photos of various dangers to the Lake such as transformers that still exist above the water's edge on the West Oakland Avenue shore. She has e-mailed the photos to Borough officials and they should be addressed during any cleanups at G.O. Park.
 - c. **Green Team Update** – Work is still being done by the Borough toward earning SJ points. Nancy Krause is preparing to write up a report for the drug-drop off program centered at the

Oakland Police HQ.

d. Recycling Update – No report.

e. Open Space Update – The Bergen County Open-Space Committee has approved recommending funds to purchase the Bi-County property south of Long Hill Rd. They will pass this opinion on to the Bergen County Freeholders for possible implementation of a grant offer. \$4.9 million is suggested.

f. Communications – The last Cross Roads of the year has gone out. The Commission flyer on recycling will be included in the Borough's annual recycling mailing. Gina Mayer-Costa is tracking number of visitors to the myGreenOakland.org website. It has been visited 100 times since November.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

a. Current Projects – The ordinance concerning unregulated pipelines is on the agenda.

9. Budget Status – The Budget for 2016 is being considered.

10. Close Meeting - The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. The next meeting will be the re-organization meeting on Tuesday, January 19th at 7:30 PM.

11. Minutes were submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.