



Borough of Oakland, New Jersey

OAKLAND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday October 5, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing

Phone: (201) 337-8111

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www.oakland-nj.org

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:35 p.m.

- 2. MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:** The Regular Meeting of the Oakland Environmental Commission is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, duly announced, submitted to the newspaper, and advertised more than 48 hours in advance of the meeting and notice posted in the Borough Hall and on the Borough website.

3. ROLL CALL:

Chairman Lee Haymon, Vice Chairman Michael Miner, Karen Lanza, Jerri Angermueller, Matthew Shook, and Secretary Michael Carelli present. Erich Kamm, Alex Myers, Austin Wall, Tony Bertuna, and Council Liaison Pasquale Pignatelli absent. Motion to excuse absent members made by Chairman Lee Haymon and Seconded by Karen Lanza. The motion carried with all in favor.

4. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Motion to Open to the Public made by Vice Chairman Michael Miner and Seconded by Matthew Shook. Motion to Close to the Public made by Matthew Shook and Seconded by Karen Lanza.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. September 14, 2021 Minutes:

- i. Motion to adopt September 14, 2021 Minutes made by Vice Chairman Michael Miner and Seconded by Karen Lanza. Matthew Shook abstained. All in favor.

b. July 6, 2021 Minutes:

- i. Held for November Meeting due to non-quorum vote.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY BOSWELL ENGINEERING ON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES:

Borough Engineer John Yakimik and Representative James Woodward were present from Boswell Engineering. Mr. Woodward presented the new stormwater regulations adopted by the State of New Jersey and what it means to Oakland residents and businesses. Mr. Yakimik also went over the benefits of green infrastructure and bio-retention basins. Mr. Yakimik also provided the regulations regarding residential and commercial fertilizer use. Most residents are unaware of the fertilizer requirements and rules. Chairman Lee Haymon suggested that the Borough do more outreach regarding stormwater management and fertilizer use, perhaps in the next Borough Newsletter or Borough Calendar. Chairman Lee Haymon asked if the Borough has experienced issues with developers with green infrastructure elements in site plans. John

Yakimik has seen major green infrastructure developments in the City of Hoboken. Mr. Shook asked how the Borough enforces this policy. Mr. Yakimik specified that the Code Enforcement Department enforces, however, in the past not actively enforcing. Ms. Lanza asked if there are any grant programs for implementing this new stormwater management policy. Secretary Michael Carelli responded that there are no official programs, however, some programs available for green infrastructure installations such as rain gardens. The Presentation concluded with Michael Carelli stating that he will distribute amongst the Commission members.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- a. Town Council Environmental Concerns – Councilman Pat Pignatelli
 - i. No update.
- b. Open Space - Erich Kamm & Councilman Pat Pignatelli
 - i. No update.
- c. Pinnacle/Bi-County Update – Lee Haymon
 - i. No update.
- d. Great Oak Park Update – Lee Haymon
- e. Sustainable Oakland Green Team – Erich Kamm/Michael Carelli
 - i. Michael Carelli added that the Sustainable Oakland Green Team is hosting a Styrofoam Drive on January 2, 2022 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Oakland Borough Hall, 1 Municipal Plaza, Oakland, N.J. 07436, and volunteers are needed for the event.
 - ii. The Sustainable Oakland Green Team is launching the “Styrofoam Free” Business Program in anticipation of the May 2022 Plastic Bag and Styrofoam Ban. The goal is to inform our business owners of the required change so they can adequately prepare and adjust their operations without being harmed financially or caught off guard. Outreach materials will be distributed to businesses during the month of November. Volunteers are needed to go out to the businesses to drop off materials. More information will be sent out to the Commission members. The Green Team will use the Commission’s logo on all outreach materials. For those interested in volunteering, please email greenteam@oakland-nj.org.
 - iii. Michael Carelli reported that the Borough recently completed the Energy Efficiency Project, which consisted of LED lighting and HVAC upgrades to all Borough facilities, resulting in a 50% reduction in energy costs. The project was funded through the NJ Clean Energy Program.
- f. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update – Lee Haymon
 - i. No update.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. GIS Mapping Project – Lee/Mike
 - i. Mr. Yakimik suggested that the Commission reach out to the Boswell Engineering GIS Mapping Specialist James Woodward to coordinate on the project. Mr. Woodward is a resident of Oakland and would be willing to volunteer his time to the Commission for this project. More information to come.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. November Meeting Location
 - i. The Commission will continue to meet via Zoom for the near future.

b. Environmental Issues:

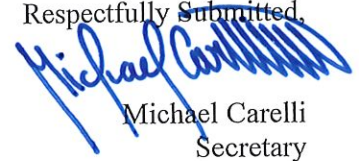
- i. Chairman Lee Haymon asked the Commissioners to survey their neighbors and the public on hot topics related to environmental issues in Oakland. Hot topics included algae blooms, recycling, deer and bears, and sewers.

10. ADJOURNMENT: 9:07 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Karen Lanza and Seconded by Matthew Shook. All in favor.

Next Meeting Tuesday November 9, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Carelli
Secretary