



# Borough of Oakland, New Jersey

## OAKLAND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

APRIL 6, 2021 REGULAR MEETING via ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

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www.oakland-nj.org

1. **Reorganization Meeting called to order** at 7:35 p.m.
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. **Roll Call:**
  - Chairman Lee Haymon, Jerri Angermueller, Tony Bertuna, Alex Myers, Austin Wall, Karen Lanza, Borough Secretary Michael Carelli, Councilman Pat Pignatelli present. Erich Kamm and Michael Miner absent upon roll call. Chairman Lee Haymon stated that they would be joining later in the meeting. Michael Miner joined at 7:38 p.m. Erich Kamm joined at 7:48 p.m.
4. **Open to the Public:**
  - Motion to open to the public made by Jerri Angermueller and seconded by Tony Bertuna. All in favor.
  - No members of the public wish to speak.
  - Motion to close to the public made by Jerri Angermueller and seconded by Austin Wall. All in favor.
5. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - Motion to approve March 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes as modified as discussed by the Commission made by Tony Bertuna and seconded by Jerri Angermueller. All in favor.
6. **Committee Updates:**
  - **Borough Council Environmental Concerns – Councilman Pignatelli:**
    - Borough Administrator said that the Land Conservancy of New Jersey is working on Borough acquisitions as requested by the Commission.
    - Budget is in the adoption process by the Governing Body, and marijuana legislation is pending further action.
    - Councilman Pignatelli added no new updates on the sewer-decommissioning project.
  - **Open Space Update – Erich Kamm:**
    - Michael Carelli added that the Borough received the grant contract for the Roosevelt Riverfront Park, and a project selection meeting is pending. Environmental Commission representative will be invited to the meeting.
  - **Pinnacle/Bi-County – Lee Haymon:**
    - No update.
  - **Dog Park/Great Oak Park Update:**
    - Chairman Lee Haymon added that the Dog Park Opening is May 8, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
    - Band shell is on hold as the Borough seeks additional funding.
    - Bike trails are pending along 202.
    - Team up to clean up is on schedule for April 24, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Great Oak Park will be a site of focus.

- Shade Tree Commission is planting trees at the dog park.
- Karen Lanza questioned the signage posted about vehicle traffic and whether or not the Borough needs additional signage prohibiting vehicles from entering the trails. Lee will check with Mike Guadagnino.
- Karen Lanza complimented the Green Team's new 'Bird and Bat Boxes'.
- Lee Haymon added that a 'Monarch Waystation' is planned by the Green Team.
- Erich Kamm provided an update on the Sustainable Oakland Green Team:
  1. Invasive Species Removal is planned on April 10, 2021 in Great Oak Park, and April 11, 2021 at 84 Roosevelt Boulevard. Both events are 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Register online at the Borough website.
  2. Roots for Rivers Planting is planned for April 24, 2021 and April 25, 2021 at Great Oak Park from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., and May 1, 2021 and May 2, 2021 at 84 Roosevelt Boulevard from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Register online at the Borough website.
  3. There was a discussion on updated trail maps.
  4. The Green Team has a Seed Bank at the Oakland Public Library during normal business hours. Residents are able to check out packets of seeds from the Oakland Library to either plant on their own or plant at the Oakland Community Garden.

- **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment – Lee Haymon:**

- Chairman Lee Haymon suggested that the Commission puts together a new system for plan review and suggested that as a member of ANJEC, each Commissioner take a look on their website for plan review training. It was also determined that the Commission usually reviews 'larger' impact plans in the Borough, and the residential plans that come through the Commission may not be as urgently needed for review.

7. **Old Business:**

- No old business.

8. **New Business:**

- **Dog Park Tick Spray Donation Environmental Concerns – Michael Carelli:**

- Alex Myers added that the product looks natural and does not seem to be harmful to the environment. Lee Haymon suggested that the Borough reaches out to the Borough Engineer to deem a professional suggestion since it will affect residents who visit the Dog Park, as well as obtain the application instructions from the vendor. Vice Chairman Michael Miner questioned whether or not the tick spray is a beneficial long term solution and suggested that individual use should be encouraged too amongst attendees of the park.

- **Team Up to Clean Up 2021 – Logistics and Planning:**

- The Environmental Commission and Green Team combined the fliers and sent out the marketing materials for both the cleanup and for Roots for Rivers. The meet up is on Saturday April 24, 2021 at 7:45 a.m., and will run until approximately 10:00 a.m. The meet up location is Danny D'Elia Building, 24 Lawlor Drive, Oakland, N.J. 07436. The targeted locations are the Borough's parks and recreation complex.

- **Mini Clean Communities Grant for Food and Supplies:**

1. Michael Carelli is coordinating refreshments and tools, and will use the grant award of \$300.00 as needed. Michael will coordinate the grant reimbursement and financing end. Registrations is through the Assistant to the Borough Administrator's email [assistadmin@oakland-nj.org](mailto:assistadmin@oakland-nj.org), and participants are asked to register by April 23, 2021.

- **ANJEC Grant Program Project Selection and Approval:**
  - Michael Carelli met with Lee Haymon and Michael Miner to select a project for the annual ANJEC grants program. Michael M. and Lee Haymon selected a GIS map for Great Oak Park. The authorizing resolution is on the next Borough Council Meeting, and the award should come in June 2021. The Commission could then schedule an implementation meeting for the project upon receipt of funding. The request amount is \$1,500.00. Motion to apply for the grant made by Erich Kamm and seconded by Tony Bertuna. All in favor. No abstained or opposed.
- 9. **Budget Status:**
  - No updates.
- 10. **Close Meeting:**
  - Motion to close made by Tony Bertuna and seconded by Jerri Angermueller. All in favor.
- 11. **Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 p.m.**

Next Meeting Tuesday May 5, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom Video Conferencing

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Carelli  
Secretary