

**BOROUGH OF OAKLAND
Environmental Commission
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Phone: (201) 337-8111
Website: www.oakland-nj.org

March 7, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Oakland Environmental Commission opened on Tuesday March 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the Oakland Senior Center, 20 Lawlor Drive, Oakland, N.J. 07436.

ROLL CALL: **Present:** **Chairman Lee Haymon, Vice Chairman Erich Kamm, Jerri Angermueller, Tony Bertuna, Council Liaison Pignatelli, Matthew Shook, William Eilert, Borough Secretary Michael Carelli**

Absent: **Tony Bertuna, Alison McCann.**

On motion of William Eilert, seconded by Lee Haymon, Alison McCann and Tony Bertuna be excused.

ALL IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 7, 2023

On motion of Tony Bertuna, seconded by Bill Eilert, the above listed minutes be approved as modified and discussed.

ALL IN FAVOR.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Chairman Lee Haymon opened for public comment.

No public present.

Chairman Lee Haymon closed the public session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Borough Council: Councilman Pignatelli advised that the Borough Council is awarding a bid for the PFAS Treatment Equipment at the next Borough Council Meeting. Lee Haymon asked if the Borough has applied for any grants. Councilman Pignatelli added there are not applicable grants as most grants require the work to be done after award, and that would significantly delay the treatment system equipment installation. There was a discussion on the MCL levels of PFAS and at-home treatment systems.

Open Space: No updates.

Great Oak Park: The Band Shell is pending installation this Spring of 2023. There was a discussion on the stewardship of the park and future plans. The Commission will work on developing a maintenance and management plan for Great Oak Park.

Green Team: Borough Secretary Michael Carelli advised that the Green Team held a Joint Meeting last week to discuss collaborating on projects. The Green Team's next Styrofoam Drive is April 22, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall. The Green Team is hosting hikes on the first Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at the Skyline Drive Lower Level Parking Lot. It is a hike for beginners.

Planning Board/Board of Adjustment: Councilman Pignatelli advised that the Hovnanian Development was approved by the Planning Board. There is no update on the McBride property. Jerri Angermueller suggested that the Borough contact the Highlands Council regarding their new technical assistance opportunity on warehouse development.

OLD BUSINESS:

Erich Kamm distributed an application for a native plant kit from Pinelands Nursery. There is no cost associated with the kit. The Commission will plant them in Great Oak Park and/or Stewarts Woods. The kit covers 550 sq. ft., or 1,100 sq. ft. It was determined to apply for the largest kit size. It was suggested to try to have school children involved in the project.

Michael Carelli will look into pamphlets from the County for Pollinator Garden practices. It was suggested to meet offline to discuss this project as a Sub Committee. The group will meet on Wednesday March 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Matthew Shook presented an opportunity through Green Acres regarding funding and technical assistance for a ROSI. It was suggested to update it using this program, more specifically maintenance responsibilities for the Borough's parks. Matthew Shook asked if the Borough can follow up with Boswell Engineering on GIS mapping the Borough's parks.

There is no update on Bi-County.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was a discussion on applying for the 2023 ANJEC grant. The Commission agreed to support the Bush Plaza Park Ad-Hoc Committee's application for pollinator gardens.

The Borough Cleanup is April 29, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The Commission will work on implementation and coordination at the next meeting. The focus will be on Great Oak Park and Stewarts Woods.

There will be a walk through at Stewarts Woods on April 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss revitalization efforts.

The Commission will look into Spotted Lanternfly education for the Carnival.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Chairman Lee Haymon opened for public comment.

No members of the public present.

Chairman Lee Haymon closed the public session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Lee Haymon set forth the motion, seconded by Erich Kamm, to adjourn the meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Carelli
Borough Secretary

The next Environmental Commission Meeting is scheduled for:
April 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at Oakland Senior Center, 20 Lawlor Drive, Oakland, N.J. 07436