

Great Oak Park Committee
Meeting Minutes January 20, 2016
Danny D'Elia Building 24 Lawlor Drive Oakland, NJ 07436

Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Guadagnino at 8:06 pm.

The following Committee members were present: Mike Guadagnino, Lee Haymon
Nancy Larkin, Tim Contrini and Council Liaison Chris Visconti.

Meeting Announcement:

Chairman Guadagnino: This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law duly announced and posted in the municipal building.

A motion to excuse S. Saliani from the meeting was made T. Contrini and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

Open to the Public:

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by L. Haymon and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

Ray DeJonghe, 44 Ryerson Avenue, was glad to see the park coming to life and thought it was a great use of the property. Mr. DeJonghe talked about some ideas he had for generating revenue in the park such as car shows and concerts. Chairman Guadagnino thanked Mr. DeJonghe for taking the time to come down and share his ideas and positive comments.

No additional public wished to speak.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by L. Haymon and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

Election of Officers:

L. Haymon made a motion to nominate Chairman Guadagnino to continue as Chairman and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

M. Guadagnino made a motion to nominate Vice-Chair Haymon to continue as Vice-Chair and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

N. Larkin made a motion to nominate Secretary Contrini to continue as Secretary and seconded by L. Haymon, all yeas.

Approval of Minutes: December 2015

A motion to approve the minutes from November was made by L. Haymon and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

Work Session:**Close Gates at First Snowfall:**

Chairman Guadagnino stated that the park gates will be closed and locked just prior to the first snowfall. The gates will remain locked until the spring when the ground conditions are suitable for emergency vehicle access.

Damage to Trails from Phase II:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that the DPW has completed repairing the damage that was caused from the study. Residents are reporting that the repairs are not finished. The damage that was done is fixed and the trails are now the way they were before.

Golf Course Work:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that The Rising Phoenix Martial Arts School will be taking over the Golf Course project. The project will be done in stages starting with cleaning up and exposing the entire course. A spring start is planned.

Fundraising:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that he was contacted by an individual that wanted to sell park tee shirts outside Shoprite. Chairman Guadagnino once again stated that he knows of donors willing to contribute but without knowing what we can do and when makes it hard to ask. L. Haymon added that he knows of grants offered for park maintenance.

Scout Project:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that he and L. Haymon conducted a walk-thru at the park with Charles Ming. Charles is proposing to create a new walking trail as his scout project. The new trail was marked out and the details were discussed.

Old Business:**Pecking Order of Items to Accomplish:**

Chairman Guadagnino provided the committee with a wish-list of future projects for the park including estimated costs. While we are waiting for answers from the DEP he would like to start discussing and prioritizing these projects.

New Business:

Sav-A-Tree:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that an individual called the Mayor with questions regarding the Great Oak and Sav-A-Tree. Chairman Guadagnino responded that he just meet with Sav-A-Tree and the Great Oak is doing well. The wound is healing nicely and the tree looks good in general. Sav-A-Tree has been out several times doing check ups. There is one dead limb that will need to be removed in the spring.

Three New Benches:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Tom Potash dropped off three benches he would like the DPW to install at the park. Councilman Visconti suggested putting one at the edge of the parking area so people could change there shoes if needed.

Liaison Report:

Councilman Visconti reported that he reached out to Frank Rossi at Boswell questioning why the LOI is taking so long. Mr. Rossi assured Councilman Visconti 2-3 more weeks and it will be complete.

Open to the Public:

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by N. Larkin and seconded by L. Haymon, all yeas.

No public wished to speak.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by T. Contrini and seconded by L. Haymon, all yeas.

Schedule February Meeting:

Chairman Guadagnino suggested February 23, 2016 at 8:00 pm at the Danny D'Elia Building for the next meeting, all were in agreement. He also stated that he would inform Borough Clerk Lisa Duncan.

Adjournment:

At 8:43 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by L. Haymon and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

Tim Contrini
Secretary

