

**Great Oak Park Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes February 11, 2014**  
**Danny D'Elia Building 24 Lawlor Drive Oakland, NJ 07436**

**Flag Salute**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Guadagnino at 8:03 pm.

The following Committee members were present: Mike Guadagnino, Lee Haymon, Nancy Larkin, Mark Ostapczuk and Council Liaison Chris Visconti, Steve Saliani was absent. Also present: Tim Contrini, Recording Secretary and Councilman Pat Pignatelli.

**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 was made by M. Ostapczuk and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

**Open to the Public:**

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

No public wished to speak.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Chairman Guadagnino and seconded by M. Ostapczuk, all yeas.

**Approval of Minutes: 10/16/2013, 11/12/2013, 12/4/2013 and 1/14/2014**

Chairman Guadagnino reported the minutes from 10/16, 11/12 and 12/4 are not available for approval due to S. Saliani absence. M. Ostapczuk made a motion to approve the minutes from 1/14/2014, seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

**Work Session:**

**Status of Eric Kozak's Walking Trails Project:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Eric is set and ready just waiting for weather to break.

**Removal of Dead Trees, Branches and Limbs:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that volunteer Peter Kikot is working with a local landscaping firm willing to donate their time and any materials to remove the dead trees, branches and limbs marked by the Shade Tree Commission. L. Haymon asked if this operation will be supervised by anyone and Chairman Guadagnino responded that the items to be removed have previously been marked by Shade Tree so it's pretty straight forward.

**Status of Doty Road Sign Replacement:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that he has secured the donated services of Wagoner & Son Contracting of Oakland to prep and paint the existing sign near the Doty Road entrance. Once the sign is painted he and some volunteers will hang the new vinyl sign with the new park logo.

**Will Fern's Scout Project Proposal:**

The formal presentation and a detailed handout package was given by Will Fern for his project to clean up and beautify the Doty Road entrance and surrounding area. The entire committee was impressed with Will's project and thanked him for his time and efforts thus far. Chairman Guadagnino stated the next step for Will is to present his proposal to the Borough Council and asked Council Liaison Visconti to add it to the agenda at the next meeting. Councilman Visconti said he would.

**Old Business:****Status of 501c3 and fundraising efforts:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that the SAO (Sports Association of Oakland) would act as the financial arm of the Great Oak Park Committee. The SAO already possess the required permits and documentation required for fundraising. The SAO and the Borough are finishing the paperwork at this time. Once all the paperwork is completed and signed, Chairman Guadagnino will proceed with setting up fundraising sub-committees.

**Master Plan-Boswell Engineering:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported the Master Plan is nearly complete. There were a few changes that had to be made and Boswell is working on them. Chairman Guadagnino asked how long it may take the DEP to respond once the Master Plan is submitted and L. Haymon responded that we should expect to wait many months.

**New Business:****Proposed Highlands Mitigation Project:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that a meeting took place with local contractor, DR Mullen Construction Co. Inc. of Oakland to discuss a possible Highlands Mitigation Project at the park. Councilman Visconti reported that after hearing several options from DR Mullen the consensus was that they need to first meet with the Highlands Council and get their feedback.

**Proposed Donation of Tree Species Identifying Signs and Bird Houses**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that he was approached by a person that wanted to donate funds to purchase signs to mark the various species of trees and several bird houses that can be placed around the park. The entire committee agreed that would be a great addition.

**Proposed Donation of Approximately 17 Colorful Bird Houses.**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that the SAO art students would like to donate approximately 17 bird houses, very colorfully painted, to be placed around the Doty Road Entrance. The entire committee thought this would also be a wonderful addition.

**Liaison Report:**

Councilman Visconti reported that the first phase of environmental inspection has been done and the second phase will be starting soon which will include some testing. Councilman Visconti also reported the next Council meeting is Wednesday 2/12/14 and he will have Will Fern's project proposal added to the next meetings' agenda on 2/26/14.

**Open to the Public:**

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

Mike Miner, (53 Hiawatha Blvd.) asked the committee where it was on the permitting process with the DEP. L. Haymon responded that once Boswell finishes the Master Plan it would be submitted to the DEP and the permit matrix can be finalized.

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

**Schedule March Meeting:**

Chairman Guadagnino suggested March 11, 2014 at 8:00 pm for the next meeting and all were in agreement. He also stated that he would inform Borough Clerk Lisa Duncan.

**Adjournment:**

At 8:42 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chairman Guadagnino and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

**Tim Contrini**

**Recording Secretary**

