

Great Oak Park Committee
Meeting Minutes July 8, 2014
Danny D'Elia Building 24 Lawlor Drive Oakland, NJ 07436

Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Guadagnino at 8:04 pm.

The following Committee members were present: Mike Guadagnino, Lee Haymon, Nancy Larkin, Mark Ostapczuk and Steve Saliani. Council Liaison Chris Visconti 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.

Open to the Public:

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

No public wished to speak.

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

Approval of Minutes: 10/16/2013, 11/12/2013, 12/4/2013 and 6/10/2014.

Chairman Guadagnino reported the minutes from 2013 are still being completed.

A motion was made by N. Larkin to approve the minutes from 6/10/2014 and seconded by L. Haymon, all yeas, with M. Ostapczuk abstaining due to his absence at the 6/10 meeting.

Work Session:

Vanderbeck Tree Pruning:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Vanderbeck Tree Service is complete with their portion of the tree trimming. The area around the new sign looks great. Councilman Pignatelli stated that some customers of Portabello's are running over the flowers around the new sign when they exit. He suggested marking the property lines and possibly installing some kind of border.

Status of Eric Kozak's Walking Trails Project:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Eric is almost complete with his walking trails project. He still needs to install the trail signs.

Status of Will Ferns's Doty Road Project:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Will is planning to start his project very soon and should be complete sometime in September.

Status of Doty Road Sign Replacement:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that the new sign has been installed and looks great.

Old Business:**Stream Work:**

L. Haymon reported that 15 volunteers came out and helped clean the C1 stream by hand. The volunteers all worked very hard and the stream is now flowing much better and has already begun to repair itself due to the increased flow. A member from Trout Unlimited also came out to help with building a natural bank from fallen cedar trees in the area.

Fundraising Efforts:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that every month he sends a full reporting of the fundraising accounting to Boro Administrator Richard Kunze.:

The following is most recent:

Purchased 50 Great Oak Park Shirts = \$365

Remaining balance from previous fundraising = \$207

Loan from SAO = \$158

Shirt Sales: 13 sold @ \$15 ea. = \$195 + \$5 donation = \$200

Resident online donation \$50 - \$2 (Paypal fee) = \$48

Total collected this month = \$248

Park owed SAO \$158 in loan to purchase shirts = \$248 - \$158 = \$90

Traffic Safety Invoice for sign frame = \$90

Balance = \$0

Bike Trail Proposal:

Chairman Guadagnino reported the flags are being placed in the ground for the proposed bike trail. The current location of the trail is not final; it will most likely be tweaked several times. L. Haymon stated that we might need to bring in the DEP to look at the location due to it being in the C1 stream buffer zone. Chairman Guadagnino stated that he will talk to Frank Rossi from Boswell.

DPW Work:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that our DPW has begun the clearing and exposing of the paved surfaces that the DEP has requested. This project should be done by the end of the summer.

New Business:**Fence Removal:**

Chairman Guadagnino stated that he talked with Councilman Visconti about the possible removal of the steel chain-link fence that runs through the park. The thought was we could advertise that a company can have the material for scrap value as long as they come in and remove it at their expense. Councilman Pignatelli stated that we need to talk to the Borough Attorney first to see if there would be any issues. Chairman Guadagnino stated he would talk to Mr. Chewcaskie.

Sav-A-Tree: Great White Oak Tree

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Sav-A-Tree of Wyckoff has made an offer to adopt the Great White Oak Tree that the park is named for. They will clean up around the area of the tree and maintain it in the future free of charge. They have already given their insurance paperwork to Rich.

3rd Scout Project:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that a third scout project has been offered. This project will entail installing benches around the area of the Great White Oak Tree. This scout may be at the next meeting to present his proposal.

Liaison Report:

No liaison report due to Councilman Visconti being absent.

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.

Former resident Bill Wyckoff, 36 Ella Stone Rd. Bloomingdale, asked what was going on with the great lawn and the band shell. Chairman Guadagnino responded that we have to do everything in phases according to the DEP. Once a phase is done the DEP will come back and tell us what we can do next. The environmental issues are first and the parking is next.

Councilman Pignatelli 499 Ramapo Valley Rd. asked when we think the park will be open to the public. Chairman Guadagnino responded that when the walking trails are complete, including the signage, we can consider opening up the park to the public. Additionally, we need to meet with our police and emergency responders to make sure they are satisfied with the access to the park in case of an emergency. M. Ostapczuk, an EMT, stated that they do rescues in remote wooded areas so access to the park should not be a problem. It was agreed that sometime this fall is realistic.

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

Schedule July Meeting:

Chairman Guadagnino suggested August 12, 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 8:39 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by S. Salianni and seconded by L. Haymon, all yeas.

Tim Contrini
Recording Secretary