

Oakland Environmental Commission  
January 19, 2010

The January 2010 meeting of the Oakland Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:45 PM.

Members present were Michael Kozak, Erich Kamm Mike Lynch and Mark Ostapczuk. Betsy Staggs has been reappointed as our council liaison, per Borough Clerk.

**New Business** –

1. The election of officers and appointment of secretary were tabled till the February meeting. The February meeting was set for Tuesday, February 2, 2010.
2. Eagle Scout projects – Promoting reusable shopping bags in ShopRite was suggested as a possible project for an Oakland Eagle Scout. M. Kozak will talk to Martin Treich.
3. ANJEC Smart growth grant application – The 2010 application form for due date March 31, 2010 was just received in December. Walking Trail plan is on hold (see below.)
4. Anti-idling effort – Valley Middle School students are promoting an anti-idling program in Oakland, especially in the vicinity of the schools. They are expecting to distribute flyers that can be handed out to individuals who are idling explaining negative side-effects of idling, such as asthma. OEC members suggested contacting the Oakland Police to ask about enforcement of anti-idling statutes in town.

**Old Business** -

1. **Trail Grant** – Members of the Environmental Commission are invited to meet with Steve Wagoner of the Oakland Recreation Commission to tour the Recreation Fields and discuss the best route for the walking/biking trail. Al LoPilato expressed interest in an e-mail.
2. **Septic Pumping** – Mark Ostapczuk reported that the Board of Health is still discussing the possibility of regulating pumping for home owners with septic tanks. Members discussed ‘Milorganite’, which is a fertilizer that is made from sewage sludge.
3. **Web page and e-mail** – Clean Communities has Public Service announcements. Peter Marcalus of the Communications Commission has also written public service announcements regarding recycling in Oakland. He plans to have these spots produced by the TV Committee and aired on Oakland TV.
4. **Recycling** – Michael Kozak received reports from Recycling Coordinator Eugene Mac Mahon indicating that Oakland’s average percentage of co-mingled and paper pick-up to trash pickup is currently around 27%. M. Kozak has been weighing his own refuse and finds he is currently at 48% of total trash being recyclable. He believes the OEC could encourage other town residents to increase their share of recyclable refuse. He asked other Commission members to try determining their own home percentage of separation.
5. **OEC design/symbol** is being worked on at IHHS per Darren Ward by e-mail.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. Minutes submitted by Jerri Angermueller