

The January 2009 meeting of the **Oakland Environmental Commission** was called to order at 7:40 PM Tuesday, January 20 by Vice Chairperson Nancy Krause for reorganization. Members present were Erich Kamm, Mike Kozak, Mike Lynch, Mark Ostapczuk, and Al LoPilato. Mayor Szabo was also attending. The minutes of the December 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved with amendments.

Reorganization: 1. Lee Haymon and Erich Kamm received new 3 year appointments from the Mayor and Council. The members present voted Lee Haymon as Chairman, Nancy Krause as Vice Chairman, and Jerri Angermueller as Secretary for 2009. Robert Akovity was appointed alternate member.

2. Meeting dates for 2009 were discussed. It was proposed that meeting dates be changed to second Tuesdays of the month so as not to conflict with Board of Adjustment meetings. The matter was brought to a vote. All members voted in favor of changing meetings dates to second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be February 10, 2009 at 7:30 PM in the Conference Room in Borough Hall.

Old Business:

1. Green Forum – The members and Mayor reconfirmed plans for a Green Forum to be held in the Council Chambers, open to the public and televised on Channel 77. The date for the Forum was set on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 7:30. The Mayor will contact the Rutgers website for a presentation. Mike Kozak and Mike Lynch will work with the Mayor to finalize the program plans by the February meeting. Cool Communities will be introduced by Nancy Krause.
2. Green Fair – Plans for a Green Fair in the spring were discussed. No definite date was set. The Mayor will check on Rec. Field availability. Nancy requested that members research on-line Fairs which other North Jersey towns have held recently. Al LoPilato will contact the Kinnelon website. Maywood, Maplewood and Highland Park have also held Green Fairs and have extensive websites on the events. Mike Kozak, Mike Lynch, and Mark Ostapczuk will view these sites for information. Erich Kamm will view the Bergen SWAN website for their Green Fair resources.
3. Smart Growth Grant application – The recently received application form was given to the Mayor for use by the Borough Council in their pursuing of grants. The Council is doing a carrying capacity and sustainability study through a Highlands Commission grant. Erich Kamm asked that the Master Plan changes be made available to the Environmental Commission for review and possible assistance.
4. Erich Kamm discussed presentation of this Commission's proposal for acquisition of the Oakland River Front 40/Heritage Hills property to the Mayor & Council. The Mayor advised the submittal of the proposal once the Chairman has signed the final version.
5. Reusable bags & bottles – Mark Ostapczuk said this Commission is to receive a grant of 200 reusable bags from Bergen County with the Clean Communities Logo. A possible logo, such as "Sustainable Oakland" for the second side was discussed. Also possible methods of distribution were discussed including the Y.E.S group, PTO's and scouts troops. Al LoPilato discussed a reusable water bottle company who will donate 120 bottles with logo of our choice.
6. Recycling – Mike Kozak and Eugene Mac Mahon, Recycling Coordinator, have composed a new letter to inform the residents about new pick-up recycling standards. The letter is scheduled for a town-wide mailing soon. The Mayor will include this information in his CrossRoads message.

New Business –

1. The Chamber of Commerce of Oakland is planning a Green Building Seminar to take place at the Oakland Library Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009 at 7:30 PM. The public may attend per Pres. Michael Fox.
2. Correspondence was received from Portobello Restaurant that they have submitted to the NJDEP for a Treatment Works approval for the 155 Ramapo Valley Road address.
3. Correspondence was received from James Construction that they are requesting wetlands boundaries from the NJDEP for regulated activities at 655 Ramapo Valley Road.

Planning Board/ Board of Adjustments –

1. The Finale/ McCoy Farm plans and the Ropper downtown development are both scheduled to be discussed January 20 in the Council Chambers before the Board of Adjustments.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller