

The March 2008 meeting of the Oakland Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:40 P.M. Tuesday 3/04/08 by Chairman Lee Haymon. Members present were Erich Kamm, Mike Kozak, Nancy Krause, Darren Ward, Nick DiLandro and Mark Ostapczuk. Mike Lynch is ill. The minutes were reviewed and accepted with corrections. The budget is still awaiting approval.

### **Planning Board/Board of Adjustments**

- a. Highlands meeting on Pinnacle – March 6 at Chester, N.J. Erich Kamm is planning to attend and speak. The Highlands Council has to vote on the Pinnacle project. The DEP believes that septic systems replenish the water table by returning the water to the ground, but diverting sewage water to Wayne will provide a loss of water. Oakland is required to supply water for any housing, supplying more water than actually needed. The Highlands exemption still exists. No offer of purchase has been made.
- b. Nick DiLandro has submitted his resume to the Planning Board to be dual member and the liaison from the Environmental Commission.
- c. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for the second Thursday of March.

### **Old Business**

- a. Trail Grant – Darren has found no drawing of a proposed trail for the Trail Grant Application. Mike Kozak suggested that Darren draw up a trail proposal on an area map and submit it. All members agreed with this proposal.
- b. SMART-Growth ANJEC Grant Application – Mike Kozak met with Mayor Szabo to discuss the SMART-Growth grant application. Other groups in town are interested in pursuing such grants for the downtown area and planning. The Borough must provide a 50/50 matching grant. Volunteer time can also be considered in-kind matching toward the grant at \$15-\$30/hour for research, reporting, etc. The Environmental Commission would like to offer its services for help in the planning and for the mayor's green-group. Areas of interest would be walking/biking paths in town, LEEDS certification ordinance, and a pedestrian Ramapo crossing bridge. Lee will look into requirements for acquiring a river-crossing permit.
- c. Camp Tamarack – Todd Cochran of Bergen County Parks Dept. wants to walk the site with members of the Commission. Darren and Lee offered to set a date to view the site with him.
- d. Re-useable bags – Mark Ostapczuk wants to proceed with acquiring bags. Nick DiLandro also wants to find sponsors for the bags in town. Suggestions made for sponsors included Y.E.S. group, scout troops, PTO's, local commerce. This Commission could provide the bags for imprinting with sponsors' name, or scout troops could decorate the bags for donors.
- e. Recycling – The Borough will soon start picking up e-waste upon request. Mike Kozak wants to work with recycling coordinator Eugene MacMahon and the DPW on this. Nancy K gave [KinnelonConserves.net](http://KinnelonConserves.net) as a useful website showing a local effort on recycling, etc.

### **New Business**

- a. Arbor Day/Earth Day Planning – Nancy had a drawing from Ed Clark of the Shade Tree Commission showing the site by Dogwood where trees were blown down. Shade Tree is supplying several trees for the April 18 planting. The Environmental Commission can supply oak trees, and may plant them on Saturday, April 19. Nick DiLandro wants to get 20 trees, including red maples and pear trees. Mike Kozak's wife is on the Manito School PTO. Mike will contact Ed Clark about planting trees by Manito School. The DPW will dig planting holes, provide fill and do watering over the summer months.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller