

Oakland Environmental Commission

October 6, 2009

1. Open Meeting – Chairman Lee Haymon called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. Members present were Michael Kozak, Mike Lynch, Robert Akovity and Nancy Krause. Darren Ward was present at 7:30 PM to excuse himself from the meeting.

2. New Business

- a. **Green Team Status** – Michael Kozak reported on the first meeting. Michael and Erich Kamm presented the OEC's schedule of achievable points, which is to help the Green Team attain sustainability status with Sustainable Jersey. The Mayor had replied that he did not want the Team to feel any undue time pressure. Elaine Rowin is the Planning Board representative, Pat Pignatelli brought up the Wellness Plan. Betsy Stagg presented the Borough's water initiative. Erich and Michael spoke out for setting goals. 10/21/09 is the next Green Team meeting at the Senior Center.
- b. **Deer Problem** – A letter on the growing deer population from resident Martin Treich was discussed. The Commission has not heard complaints from other town people on this matter, but all members had their own experiences with deer and geese within Oakland. Many options were discussed such as non-interference, the over-grazing problem, fence restraints, supporting birth control programs, or supporting a hunt. Community-based deer permits are allowed for areas 400' from any building. It was decided to ask more residents for their opinions and concerns on the matter before supporting any course. Nancy will contact the NJ State Fish & Wildlife Commission and Maplewood Deputy Mayor Fred Profeta about possible solutions to the problem. Jerri will ask to the Borough Administrator if the town is considering any actions or has heard any complaints recently.
- c. **Trail Grant** – Lee will speak with Mike Miner and Steve Wagoner of the Recreation Commission about the progress on this application. The path could include access to the downtown area via Oak Street with lighting from Oak St. to Lawlor Drive.
- d. **Highlands Plan** – The Planning Board is having a talk by Eileen Swan of the State Highland's Commission Thursday, Oct. 8 to describe the options of following the Highland's Commission's recommendations or not. Attendance is encouraged.
- e. **Heritage Hills Public Meeting** – Wednesday, Oct. 7 the Mayor and Council are having a special session to discuss the purchase of the Heritage Hills property between Rt. 202 and the Ramapo River behind Portobello's. Many Commission members plan to attend to support the purchase of the property for open-space.
- f. **ANJEC Annual Meeting** - Saturday, October 17 in New Brunswick. Those who plan to go can give the secretary their payment receipts for reimbursement from this year's budget. Attendance now costs \$55. The League of Municipalities 2009 Conference is scheduled for Nov. 16 – 20 in Atlantic City.
- g. **Septic Pumping** – Mark Ostapczuk was not present for Health Dept. input. The Pompton Lakes PRIDE group has asked for our support in maintaining lake water quality. Better maintenance of Oakland septic systems could help this effort.

- h. **Sustainability in Franklin Lakes** – Michael Kozak will be speaking to the Franklin Lakes Environmental Commission about SustainableNJ at their Monday, November 9th meeting.

3. **Old Business**

- a. **Webpage and e-mail** – no new messages have been received at the OEC e-mail address. Ron Lotterman can be contacted with updates to the Borough website. An e-mail will be composed by the secretary, informing the residents who signed our list at the Town Carnival, about the current progress of the Green Team. Michael K. will assist with the text of the message.
- b. **T-shirt graphics** – designs are expected from Nancy Krause and Krystal Persaud.
- c. **Recycling Update** – Michael Kozak presented Eugene Mac Mahon’s report on amounts of recycling collected by the Borough contractor as compared to garbage collected. M. Kozak still encourages enforcement for improvement to rates. Especially Suburban Disposal needs to be better informed about what they should and should not pick up on given collection days.
- d. **Open Space Update** – tabled to next meeting.

4. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**

- a. **Current Projects – Highlands Conformance Report acceptance.**
- b. **Meeting Schedule** – 7 PM Thursday, Oct. 8 at the Senior Center on Highlands Conformance: A presentation by Eileen Swan of the NJ Highlands Commission.
- c. **New plans** – Soil moving permit for new construction at 655 Ramapo Valley Rd.

- 5. **Budget Status** – the budget currently has \$381 available funds.

6. **Meeting Minutes Review**

- a. **Approve multiple minutes** – the minutes for meetings of July, August and September 2009 were approved.

- 7. **Close Meeting** – the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller