

**Oakland Environmental Commission Meeting  
September 2009**

The Oakland Environmental Commission meeting of September 1, 2009 was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Lee Haymon. Members present were Erich Kamm, Nancy Krause, Michael Lynch, Mark Ostapczuk, and Robert Akovity.

**1. Open Meeting to the Public**

Presentation by Pompton Lakes Restoration Committee (PRIDE) – George Popov and Carl Padula of this group gave a Power-Point presentation on environmental influences on the quality of water in the Pompton Lake. Especially Phosphorous was indicated as a pollutant which increases algae blooms and decreases the water depth. Water's edge erosion, geese and swan proliferation, lack of septic tank maintenance and vegetation growth were also presented as problems in Oakland, Pompton Lakes and Wayne that this Committee is attempting to address. Du Pont recently supported Pompton Lakes with \$15,000 to help provide a treatment to lower Phosphorous levels in the Lake. Maria Kent of PRIDE spoke of their involvement with Pompton Lakes officials. The Committee asked that we approach Oakland's Mayor and Council to request participation by Oakland in this continuing treatment process. North Jersey Water Commission can control lake depth. A petition has been started for distribution in Pompton Lakes, Oakland and Wayne to promote their participation. Robert Akovity asked if desilting and phosphorous reduction would be enough to solve the lake quality problem. The Committee stated that septic tank education is also a key step.

The Committee is interested in applying for grants to help with nitrate monitoring and other lake maintenance. State and Federal legislation could help regulate phosphorous use and septic maintenance. The PLOW organization helped with a previous desnagging project. That organization (Pompton, Oakland, Wayne) is now defunct. The Pompton Lakes Rotary Club is involved in this project. Oakland's Green Team could become active on this point. A joint town lake/river clean-up was suggested. A solar-powered water aerator was described by Rob Akovity. Such devices supply water maintenance with their own power supply.

The Lake Restoration Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month in the PL Civic Center at 7:30 PM. The Pompton Lakes Flood Commission meets on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays. Robin Ohearn is the Wayne contact person.

**2. New Business**

- a. Green Team Status – Erich Kamm and Michael Kozak are scheduled to meet with the Green Team Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2009 in the Senior Center at 7 PM. The public is also invited to attend. Several OEC members plan to attend.
- b. Sustainability FS – Rob Akovity will have this report available for Erich Kamm at the Green Team meeting for discussion on priorities of the Team.
- c. Trail Grant – Michael Miner of the Oakland Recreation Commission has given the plans to Boswell engineering for further development of Ed Clark's plans for a walking/biking path in the Rec. fields.
- d. ANJEC planning grants- Michael Lynch will look into what grants are currently available for 2010 applications. Smart-growth applications are generally due in March, if they are renewed each year.
- e. Highlands Plan – Lee Haymon took the Highlands Compliance report of the Oakland Planning Board for examination before the next meeting.

**3. Old Business**

- a. Webpage and e-mail – Peter Marcalus wants to do TV spots on environmental maintenance
- b. Golf shirts – Michael Lynch is looking into OEC golf shirts. He will be in contact with Nancy Krause and Crystal Persaud concerning a logo or graphics for the shirt.
- c. Open-space Update – Erich Kamm will contact Council Liaison Stagg on the progress of open-space acquisition.

**4. Planning Board/ Board of Adjustments** – No new plans have been submitted to the Environmental Commission

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM due to library closing. Budget and minutes to be discussed at next meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Jerri Angermueller, secretary