

Oakland Public Events Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 12th, 2021

OPEC meeting opened at 7:34  
Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance

**In attendance:**

Chopper Russo (Chairperson)  
Pam Wasserman  
Mike Kozak  
Andrea Levy  
Jerri Angermueller  
Joe Inglima  
Kevin B (Secretary)  
Chopper (Chairperson)

- **Approval of Last Month's Minutes**

- Secretary to CC committee members on future minutes

- **New Business**

- Green Team going to open new gardens behind Oakland Municipal Building 10am on Saturday
  - OPEC has been asked to provide food
    - Request was under \$500
    - Voted on and approved unanimously by the committee.
- Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled
  - Captain Ron Beaty wants to have a gathering in Veteran's Park
  - OPEC Chairperson unaware of any financial obligations
- Fever Pitch
  - TBD
- Carnival
  - Bluesky Amusements
    - Asked us to move the Carnival date from June 16th to June 23rd.
      - Meadowlands Fair approved to start on the same date
    - Mayor Schwager announced that 5.1M NJ residents have received first vaccinations
    - Kevin sent the forms from Bluesky amusements on how they would sanitize rides and safety protocols
    - Chopper is expecting a drop in attendance
      - Downside is financial
        - Fireworks \$14,000
        - Toilets \$3,500
        - Tent number subject to change
        - Some 501c organizations may not want to participate
          - Games of Chance do not affect us financially
  - Open Forum

- Andrea Levy: Can the Games of Chance be held by multiple organizations. It is difficult for the organizations to get enough staff for the whole weekend.
- Chopper: Previous vender has always had the staff. In agreement if Revari (sp?) can't get enough to participate. We may not get enough booths - we'll have to send out an email to see which 501c's will want to participate. The Knights will. Rotary will do it.
- Mike Kozak: Scouts likely to participate.
- Jerri Angermueller: Scouts were in Great Oak Park this past weekend pulling out invasive species, but not as an official event.
- Mike Kozak: Scouts rely heavily on income from the Carnival. What do the Mayor and Council and Borough Administrator say about the Carnival?
- Chopper: Borough Administrator is concerned for the liability aspect. Encouraged by Governor's blessing for the Meadowlands Fair. Speculated that the blessing was based on the ratio of space of the Fair to the number of people, which bodes well for the Oakland Carnival. This is a gray area that needs to be qualified.
- Mike Kozak: We need to come to a conclusion quickly, has anyone on the Council indicated that they want to approve the event?
- Chopper: Just Rich. Chopper has informed Linda about the Meadowlands Fair.
- Mike Kozak: Has the council received a copy of the proposal from Blue Sky?
- Chopper: No.
- Next Council meeting is Wednesday.
- Mike Kozak: The proposal from Blue Sky is explicit, and it's just a matter of the council reading it over with a representative to answer any questions.
- Chopper: Asked the secretary (Kevin Bagar) to forward Blue Sky documents to Lisa Duncan and ask her to send to Mayor and Council Members.
- Mike Kozak: We should take a vote to approve the Carnival and present it to the Mayor and Council. To answer Andrea Levy's previous question, multiple organizations cannot run the games of chance as groups. Can double check.
- Chopper: We will come back to games of chance.
- Mike Kozak in favor of holding the Carnival.
- Jerri Angermueller: Is there a minimum number of people to purchase tickets.
- Mike Kozak: No, we get 35% of the proceeds and pay only for Fireworks, Toilets and DPW.
- Discussion regarding pre-sale tickets, possibly exclusively to manage capacity.
- Andrea Levy: Concerned about how to handle the people congregating for the fireworks.
- Andrea Levy: Motion to open to the public, seconded.
- David Farinick: The Oakland website shows that no wristbands on Friday or Saturday nights.
- Chopper: This is what the committee had decided for the 2020 Carnival that never happened.
- David Farinick: Confirming that the dates are changing from June 19th to June 23rd. Confirmed by committee.

- Joe Inglima: Motion to close to public.
- Chopper: Who is in favor of having the carnival?
  - Jerri Angermueller: In Favor
  - Andrea Levy: Abstain
  - Kevin Bagar: Abstain
  - Pam Wasserman: In Favor
  - Joe Inglima: In Favor, pending Health Department recommendations and 501c participation
  - Mike Kozak: In Favor, regardless if it's limited, as long as it's safe
- Andrea Levy: We need to vote on the money for the FLOW Film Festival
  - Mike Kozak: Motion to approve a vote to approve \$1500-\$1600, seconded
  - Vote held, motion budget passed.
- Joe Inglima: Motion to close, seconded.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:30.