

Oakland Environmental Commission

March 5, 2019

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Alex Myers. David Blanke, Peter Kikot, Carol Peterson and Ali Fleeson were present. Nancy Krause, Gina Mayer-Costa, Lee Haymon, and Erich Kamm were absent with excuse. Councilman Pat Pignatelli attended.
2. Meeting Announcement: This meeting is being held in accordance with the open public meetings law, duly announced, advertised, and posted in the municipal building.
3. Open to public – No public attended.
4. Reorganization – Elections were tabled due to low attendance. It was moved and agreed that a phone vote could be called in by members at the April meeting if available.
5. Meeting Minutes Review from 1-8-19, 2-5-19. Minutes were approved with amendments.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. EC Self-Assessment - David Blanke – Assessment is available. No update.
 - b. FLOW film festival – March 22 - Carol Peterson discussed details of the event in the Oakland Public Library being hosted by the Oakland Green Team, the IHHS Environmental Club and the Oakland Environmental Commission at 7 PM. The movie is “Bag It.” Plastic bags will be collected for recycling. A composting barrel that is available at the DPW will be on-hand for viewing. The other 3 events will take place at the Wyckoff Public Library. See the posted flyers for details.
 - c. Team Up to Clean Up - Nancy Krause has posted a flyer and sign-up information on Borough websites. The Oakland Public Events Committee will be providing refreshments again this year. It is Saturday, April 27 starting 9AM at Dogwood Hills School.
 - d. Roots for Rivers - Carol Peterson reported that a micro-biologist has been enlisted to evaluate soil samples from Great Oak Park as the trees are planted. She will be planting trees on 5/4 and 5/5 in the Park. Ramapo College Environmental Club members will help with the removal of invasive species. A winch could help remove roots. The Public is invited to join in with the planting activities.
 - e. Sustainable Jersey small business grants – Carol will submit a new grant request once Kevin Mauro’s bicycle rack grant is completed.
7. **New Business**
 - a. 2019 Plan and Goals – Peter Kikot spoke about a plan to increase the compostable food rest collection throughout town. The Commission could present a viable plan to the Mayor and Council when completed. Operational goals need to be set.
 - b. Sunshine law- See attached websites
https://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/presidents_office/content/docs/Sunshine%20Law%20s.pdf
 - c. [Http://www.anjec.org/pdfs/2019OpenSpaceGrants-Application.pdf](http://www.anjec.org/pdfs/2019OpenSpaceGrants-Application.pdf)
 - d. Dog park tree recommendations – Peter Kikot attended the meeting with Ryan Schwertfeger, the Park Committee and the Shade Tree Commission. Trees and shrubs that could be toxic to dogs were identified. Native alternatives were determined. More suggestions are welcomed.

8. Committee Updates

- a.* Junior EC member update - Calli O'Neal was not present.
- b.* Town Council Update - Pat Pignatelli reported that the Sandy Beach acquisition discussion is still on-going. Bi-County property is still designated as a tree farm.
- c.* Great Oak Park Update – Yellow stripes sprayed on trees in the Park were potentially markers for the planned dog-park. It was suggested that a temporary paint or tape could be used in the future for any marking in the Park rather than permanent paint. Any changes to the Park need to be made public before carried out. Alex Myers proposed that a letter to the town be drafted to record how the Recreation Commission could remove the graffiti paint markings.
- d.* Green Team Update - Carol Peterson reminded about the Styrofoam collection on Sunday, April 28th.
- e.* Open Space Update - Erich Kamm was not present.
- f.* Communications - Gina Mayer-Costa was not present

9. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

- a.* Current Projects – Spring Ave at West Oakland Ave. and 53 Spruce Street are both considering possible construction projects.
- b.* Review Plans - Plans were reviewed as needed for comments.

10. Budget Status – Under review

11. Closed Meeting at 9:15 PM. Next meeting April 5, 7:30 PM. Minutes submitted by Jerri Angermueller, Secretary.