

Oakland Environmental Commission

July 3, 2018

1. Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM by Chair Nancy Krause with members Lee Haymon, Gina Mayer-Costa, Kevin Mauro, Michael Kozak, David Blanke and Carol Peterson. Pat Pignatelli attended as Council liaison. Alex Myers and Erich Kamm were excused.
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. **New Business**
 - a. Town Carnival - David Blanke reviewed event from booth traffic to contact list. It is intended that visitors that signed in at the booth will have their contact data put in the mailing list for newsletters and announcements. Contacts were established.
 - b. Plastic bag ban proposal - Carol Peterson – A potential State law on a \$.05 fee for each disposable bag used is being discussed. A local ban on bags could override the tax. This Commission can request that the Mayor& Council pass a resolution preventing single-use bag distribution in town. Other plastic use can be considered as well. Jersey City has a sample program to reduce bag use.
4. **Open to public** – No public attended.
5. Meeting Minutes Review from 3-6-18, 4-3-18, 5-1-18, 6-5-18 Minutes of March through June were approved with amendments.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. Potash Lake Recreation Area sign -Nancy Krause – The name of the lake according to current tax maps of the Borough is Schuyler Lake. It was proposed that the name to be entered on any park sign for the boat dock area off of West Oakland Avenue should be discussed by the Mayor& Council at a public meeting and decided by official resolution.
 - b. Water quality report– Kevin Mauro has been researching the 1,4 dioxane question and any potential impact on Oakland’s drinking water. Michael Kozak requested that the Commission be permitted to review the Borough’s Water quality report before it is issued so that members are prepared for questions that arise. It was stated 1,4 dioxane is an ingredient in some dish-washing liquids and other common household items.
 - c. Sustainability Practices from IHHS website link – Calli O’Neal presented her website on-line and is open to more comments. She did not attend the meeting.
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Town Council Update- Pat Pignatelli: The proposed chicken-ownership resolution is still under discussion. The potential purchase of Sandy Beach is being reviewed by the Borough Attorney and various assessors to establish a fair purchase price.
 - b. Great Oak Park Update - Lee Haymon – Planning for the installation of a band shell is progressing. Fields are being prepared. Lee proposed a clean-up event for the C-1 stream. Day-lighting of stream could be an Environmental Commission project.

- c.* Green Team Update - Carol Peterson reported on latest projects and goals. “Bat” man is being requested by library. A Styrofoam collection is waiting for scheduling. EV charging stations are being considered in Bergen County towns. A grant application may be available soon. A food composting program was explained. Jersey City and Hoboken currently have programs in place.
- d.* Recycling Update - Commissioners will be meeting with recycling officials to find ways to improve compliance and public education.
- e.* Open Space Update (Sandy Beach) – Commissioners can continue to speak at public meetings to follow progress of the possible purchase of the building and site.
- f.* Communications – website/crossroads - Gina Mayer-Costa reported on line than she has completed articles on the Butterfly gardens in the Great Oak Park and the pending ban on plastic bags. She needs to have residents sign up to receive the newsletters. The Borough’s webmaster adds e-mail addresses to lists of residents receiving e-blasts.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

- a.* Current Projects – Kevin Mauro will review plans submitted by the Board of Adjustments. Hearings for permission to erect an electric billboard near Edison Avenue along Rt. 287 are on-going.

9. Budget Status – Requests for payment of conference fees need to be submitted at least two weeks before payment is due.

10. Closed meeting at 9:10 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for August 7th, 7:30 PM. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.