

Oakland Environmental Commission

October 4, 2016

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members attending were Lee Haymon, Alex Myers, Gina Mayer-Costa, Erich Kamm, and Michael Kozak. Excused members are Mike DaSilva, Mark Ostapczuk and Peter Tuohy.
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. Meeting Minutes Review from 3-1-16, 6-7-16, 7-5-16, 8-2-16, 9-6-16 Minutes will be approved on a rolling attendance basis.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – The Chairwoman has been following the process. Pilgrim has not yet filed a permit application with the State of New Jersey. CAP is still gathering data on the dangers and strengths of the proposed pipeline.
 - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area - Eagle Scout projects are still seeking approval from Scout officials.
 - c. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout Project/ Nature guide/map - Reilly Beach said he is working on a kiosk and on the Nature trail.
 - d. Replant Oak tree – Tree will be planted after it has lost its leaves.
6. **New Business**
 - a. ANJEC annual meeting summary – Nancy Krause and Jerri Angermueller attended. They reported on the recent legislation and plan review seminars they heard. ANJEC grants are available to support Sustainable Jersey efforts in Oakland such as installation of a charging station for electric cars. Also discussed were climate change and updated GIS map sites such as NJ Map2.com.
 - b. IHHS mountain bike training is being held on public school property. The Commission was notified
7. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Town Council Update – A Public Hearing for an Open-space grant for the purpose of acquiring a band shell for Great Oak Park is scheduled for 10/10/16.
 - b. **Great Oak Park Update** – Mayor Schwager requested Commission input on projects proposed for the Park including a Dog-walking area and a Band Shell with a Great Lawn for public events. The following comments were made:
 - Dog- walking area – Dog-walkers can be good stewards for the Park. Their frequent visits are likely to support care of the park. Shade should be encouraged for their area, but they should avoid the stream areas to limit erosion and run-off. A natural grass surface would be best for sustainability and dog paw concerns.
 - Band Shell and Great Lawn – It was moved and seconded that the following points be offered for input at the October 10th Public Hearing on a grant application from the Bergen County Open space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Program.
 1. A conceptual plan needs to be presented to determine the impacts of such construction in the Park. The Commission would like to review this plan.
 2. How will maintenance be provided over the years to assure the continuing safety of such a structure? How will this be inspected and funded?

3. How will public sanitation be maintained, including garbage control and rest rooms? Run-off is a concern. Cigarette butts and garbage could be washed into streams or imbedded in the soil.

4. How will access and parking for events be monitored and the Park protected?

5. Other potential impacts of this project include noise pollution from events, light pollution and the possible need for power supply to the Band Shell. Who will provide it?

6. Other options could be simpler. A band shell can be rented from Bergen County. This would provide all the services without requiring continuing maintenance. Using Borough funding from the Public Events Trust for rental would keep control within the Borough. A public County grant would require more outside oversight.

7. The Environmental Commission requests the plans be submitted to the Commission for review. An Environmental Impact statement should be done.

c. Green Team Update - Oakland Borough certification will expire December 31, 2017. Environmental Commission needs to approach M& C to keep the Green Team certification active. The Commission can help keep the Green Team supported. Gina offered to write up a proposal. Borough officials will be encouraged to be an active part of the Green Team this year and next.

d. Recycling Update – New bulletin was sent out to residents. Gina’s recycling flyer was included. The OEC was not consulted for its recommendations. [http://oakland-nj.org/PDF/2016 Recycle Garbage Newsletter PDF.pdf](http://oakland-nj.org/PDF/2016%20Recycle%20Garbage%20Newsletter%20PDF.pdf)

e. Open Space Update (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) – News article on Borough efforts to gain funding from Highlands Council and more.

f. Communications – website/crossroads – New site is not yet active.

g. Carnival participation – Participation will be discussed as Carnival 2017 approaches

h. Betsy Stagg was memorialized. She was OEC Council liaison for many years.

8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update

a. Current Projects – Board will be discussing an application for a Wawa with gas station to replace a current Burger King on Plaza Road. Lee Haymon, as OEC liaison to the Planning Board, has brought up environmental concerns including fuel delivery, safety of storage including leak detection and prevention, spill clean-ups, and the vicinity of a C-1 stream within 300 ft. The height of a proposed sign and any change of impervious surface may also be discussed.

9. Budget Status – Funds are available. Bills are being paid.

10. Close Meeting – Meeting adjourned at 9:25PM. Next meeting November 1 - 7:30pm. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller