

## **Oakland Environmental Commission**

### **May 3, 2016**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Alex Myers, Gina Mayer-Costa, and Mark Ostapczuk. Council Liaison Sandra Coira attended. Eric Kamm arrived at 8PM. Michael Kozak and Peter Tuohy are 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. Open to public – 1, Michael Shevtsov – 13 Oak St. - introduced himself. He is an employee of Solar City and interested in environmental issues as a resident of Oakland. He would like to be involved at the Carnival. 2. Kevin Mauro is a local student at Ramapo College who is interested in local environmental issues.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 3-1-16, 4-5-16. The minutes from March were tabled. The minutes from April were amended and approved.
5. **Old Business**
  - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – Nancy Krause and Jerri attended a Bergen County Freeholders public session where many residents spoke for and against the surveying that Pilgrim Pipeline is currently carrying out on County properties in Mahwah.
  - b. Potash Lake Recreation Area – Nancy is talking with the Eagle Scouts who hope to do the projects proposed on the north and south trails around the lake. Further comments or suggestions would be welcome from Commissioners. Mark Ostapczuk reported on condition of lake path as seen during recent clean-up. The embankment needs to be secured. It was suggested that the DPW be asked to find boulders to place at water's edge. Mark will keep Commission updated.
  - c. Stewart Woods Eagle Scout Project/ Nature guide/map – No progress to report. Oak trees planted at front of Stewart Woods are being damaged by weed-whackers, per Nancy Krause. She offered to donate an oak from her yard. It should be planted in the fall. Mark Ostapczuk will install tree guards around the remaining tree bases.
  - d. Team Up to Clean-Up – April 23 – Feedback on the event was mainly positive. Next year more coordination with schools, teachers and other FLOW towns could improve results.
  - e. FLOW Green Film Festival – Participation was good, especially at Ramapo High School where teachers invited local parties to discuss 'Mann vs. Ford' on Ford Plant paint contamination.
  - f. Oakland water testing – Mark Ostapczuk was informed by the Borough that the results of their annual water testing indicates that lead has been found within acceptable limits in water supplied by the Borough. Individual homeowners are encouraged to have their tap water tested. This is then a responsibility of the homeowners who could solve their issues with filtering or replacement of pipes with lead in the joints. Tests are available and private testing is encouraged.
6. **New Business**
  - a. Town Carnival – Dates are June 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> in the evenings. Events & opportunities were discussed to involve residents in environmental issues. A door prize could be offered. Gina will circulate a sign-up form for scheduling. Possible points could include: Climate change, recycling, and sustainable energy issues.
  - b. Daylight stream in GOP – Pipes through which the C-1 stream flows in Great Oak Park could be removed to 'Daylight' the stream. Lee Haymon will inquire about a possible ANJEC grant to facilitate the procedure.

## **7. Committee Updates**

- a.* Town Council Update – Sandra Coira related that the Pompton Lakes Shade Tree Commission inquired about Oakland's plans to fight the Emerald Ash Borer. Mahwah is also anticipating an invasion by the pest on local ash trees. Jerri will provide information from the Catskills.  
Sandra also explained the proposed town resolution 16-0100 asking the State to continue its electronic recycling program. Paper shredding event is May 14<sup>th</sup> 9AM – 1PM by Library lot.
- b.* Great Oak Park Update – Lee Haymon attended the most recent committee meeting. Information continues to be gathered on conditions in the Park in anticipation of extended park activities. Wire fencing throughout the Park is being removed, but the fence bases are being left in place to avoid disturbance of soil.
- c.* Green Team Update – Oakland is participating in the FLOW area Mayors' Health initiative. This, along with the paper-shredding, will provide points toward Sustainable Jersey certification.
- d.* Recycling Update – The current recycling contract is not yet up for negotiation.
- e.* Open Space Update (Bi-County/Property/Tamarack) Sandra Coira reported that purchase of the property is currently on hold. She said the Mayor & Council are following the situation.
- f.* Communications – website/crossroads – The next Cross Roads is due out in mid-June. Gina reported that the number of visitors to MyGreenOakland.org is increasing. She will be updating the site with pictures of the Park Clean-up Day.

## **8. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**

- a.* Current Projects – Nancy Krause is composing a letter concerning the C-1 stream which may run through the proposed building area in the proposed McBride Families building site off Long Hill Rd., Block 3401, lots 52 & 53. She included a connection to the NRI report that shows the streams and area involved.

## **9. Budget Status** – ANJEC dues have been paid. The budget is scheduled for adoption.

## **10. Close Meeting** - Next meeting is June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.