

## Oakland Environmental Commission January 14, 2014

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Mark Ostapczuk, Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers, and Peter Tuohy. Erich Kamm arrived at 8:25 PM.
2. **Annual Reorganization** – Members elected officers as follows: Nancy Krause, Chairperson, Mark Ostapczuk, Vice Chairman, and Jerri Angermueller, Secretary. Votes were unanimous.
3. **Meeting Minutes Review** - 12/3/2013 –amendments were made and information requested. Dan Fern, who worked on Great Oak Park trails with Eric Kozak, is also a Boy Scout.
4. **Old Business**
  - a. **Annual Summary of accomplishments for Council** – A draft Summary was submitted. Commissioners will review it and make additions as needed to submit it to Mayor& Council.
  - b. **Stewart's Woods Update**
    1. Nature Trail pamphlet – People are being contacted to create the pamphlet. A date for completion has been tentatively set for Earth Day to coincide with an opening event for the trail. Tours on geology and wildlife of the Woods are being planned. Plaque installation is progressing. The DPW will work on this.
    2. **NRI** – comments submitted, next date to be set soon. Additional geology info added.
  - c. **Cross Roads**, end of March/ beginning of April – Articles are being planned. Website updates for Oakland Borough site were also discussed to keep recycling facts posted.
  - d. **Sustainable Jersey** – Kirsten attended an SJ webinar on requisites for eligibility for grants which she used to advise the Commission. Several members of the Commission are submitting Citizen Leadership forms to be appointed members of Oakland's Green Team in 2014.
5. **New Business**
  - a. **Ideas for college student field study** – Alex Myers is interested in leading a field study on an environmental area in Oakland. He has done a strong-storm effect project for his course work. Suggestions included deer population study& land-management plan for Stewart Woods.
6. **Committee Updates**
  - a. **Great Oak Park Update** – Mark reported that the Park name vote is complete and the name official. Trails project is underway. Fund-raising should start soon.
  - b. **Green Team Update** – The Mayor reported at the last Council meeting that she is seeking residents, including Commission members, who would like to be appointed to the Green Team.
  - c. **Recycling Update** – China has complained about the condition of recyclables they buy from USA. Plastic needs to be clean to produce good recycled products.
  - d. **Open Space Update** – Bergen County Open-Space Trust Fund approved purchase of flood properties along Truman Blvd. in Oakland.
7. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**
  - a. Current Projects – Boards are having their reorganization meetings.
  - b. Meeting Schedule – Meetings will be on regular Tuesdays and Thursdays.
8. **Budget Status** – Stewart Woods project bills and NRI vouchers are being processed.
9. Close Meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. (next meeting February 4, 7:30pm)  
Secretary Jerri Angermueller has submitted the minutes.

## **Oakland Environmental Commission**

### **February 4, 2014**

1. **Open to Public** – Meeting was opened at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Lee Haymon, Mark Ostapczuk, Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers and Peter Tuohy were present. Council liaison Betsy Stagg was present. Michael Kozak and Michael DaSilva were excused.
2. **Meeting Minutes Review** - December 2013 & January 2014 minutes amended and approved.
3. **Old Business**
  - a. **Stewart's Woods Update**
    1. Nature trail pamphlet – No update
  - b. **NRI** – comments submitted, next date to be set soon.
  - c. **CrossRoads** end of March / beginning of April – Topics for article were discussed.
  - d. **Sustainable Jersey** – Kirsten DaSilva gave a time-line of dates the Green Team would need to meet in order to maintain bronze certification. The process can also start over as long as the Team remains active and earns points. Several applications have been submitted to the Mayor and are awaiting approval. Webinars on the Sustainable Jersey website provide helpful details.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **FLOW eco movies**- Peter Tuohy & Nancy Krause met with members of Franklin Lakes and Wyckoff EC's to discuss working co-operatively on gaining Sustainable Jersey points. They viewed a variety of movies which could become part of an environmental movie series to be offered to residents of all 3 towns. The Wyckoff Public Library will again be used in May.
  - b. **Earth Day plans** – April 26 could be opening ceremony for Stewart Woods Park. Mark Ostapczuk will check the Recreation schedule for any possible conflict. Gina Mayer-Costa will prepare a children's program for the opening to be held at the Dogwood Hills T-ball field and throughout the Woods. A plaque dedication will take place with Stewart family members.
5. **Committee Updates**
  - a. **Great Oak Park Update** – Mark reported that Eagle Scout candidates are proposing projects including a Park clean-up with the DPW. ID signs need to be installed to make name public.
  - b. **Green Team Update** – Betsy Stagg will confer with the Mayor on appointments and dates.
  - c. **Recycling Update** – Gina's proposed recycling flyer would earn Sustainable Jersey points.
  - d. **Open Space Update** – Flood properties could be eligible for Open-space funds. Betsy Stagg reported that 6 properties on Truman Blvd have applied for buy-outs for their homes. The houses would be demolished and the property returned to open-space flood plain. 2015 Blue Acres funds could be available for a further 7 homeowners who are willing sellers. In 2014 Open-space funding would be used. Green Acres funding could be used to create a park on those properties.
6. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**
  - a. **Current Projects** – Discussion on elevation of River St. houses in flood plain continue.
  - b. **Meeting Schedule** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays and Thursdays of each month.
7. **Budget Status** – ANJEC membership dues are scheduled to be paid.
8. **Close Meeting** – Meeting was adjourned at 9 PM. (next meeting March 4, 7:30pm) Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller

## Oakland Environmental Commission

### March 4, 2014 minutes

1. Open to public – Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Michael Kozak, Erich Kamm, Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers, Mark Ostapczuk, and alternates Mike DaSilva, and Peter Tuohy. Council liaison Betsy Stagg was present.
2. Meeting Minutes Review from 2/4/2014 – Minutes were amended and approved.
3. **Old Business**
  - a. Stewart's Woods Update – A dedication ceremony is being scheduled for May 3 or 10th. Stewart family members are being invited as well as Boy Scouts, Mayor & Council and residents. The plaque will be installed on the boulder before the ceremony, officially naming the park. A nature walk of the trail and refreshments will follow the ceremony.
    1. Nature trail pamphlet – Mike DaSilva has an interested WPU student. Alex Myers offered to work with Boy Scouts on creating a pamphlet. It is not expected to be available by May 3<sup>rd</sup> dedication
  - b. NRI – Begin review of final draft this month. Well water usage data from Borough wells added.
  - c. Cross Roads – The next issue is due to be distributed April 12 with March 31<sup>st</sup> submissions. Gina will write an article about the planned Stewart Woods clean-up and dedication ceremony.
  - d. Sustainable Jersey – Green team – Members have been appointed. March 5<sup>th</sup> is the first meeting.
  - e. FLOW eco movies – Peter Tuohy and Nancy are working with the committee to pick movies. The program will run through May and include Green Video awards for FLOW area high school and middle school students.
  - f. Earth Day plans – Meet for a clean-up Saturday, April 26 at 9AM in Stewart Woods. DPW will use clear plastic bags or recycling barrels for recyclable items and black bags for regular trash for pick-up.
4. **New Business**
  - a. Eagle Scout proposal – A Boy Scout will be invited to compose an Eagle project involving marking stations on the Stewart Woods Trail and creating a pamphlet describing these spots. Half tree trunk benches could also be created along the trail. It was suggested that a QR code be added to a pamphlet posted at upper kiosk, allowing users to connect to a map or website explaining more about the trail. Nancy will compose a brief proposal and e-mail it to Martin Treich and Michael Kozak.
5. **Committee Updates**
  - a. Great Oak Park Update – Mark Ostapczuk reported that the committee discussed the Eagle Scout proposal from Will Fern. Lee Haymon presented his permitting suggestions, especially the C-1 stream issues. Parking area plans are being discussed and will be submitted to the Mayor & council for their review. Erich Kamm proposed a birding event to catalog a baseline inventory of birds present, prior to disturbing the property and identify features and habitat valuable to wildlife. The next Park Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 3/11/14, 7:30 PM at the Danny D'Elia Building.
  - b. Green Team Update – Members have been appointed. They are scheduled to meet Wednesday 3/05.
  - c. Recycling Update – Gina is in contact with Recycling Coordinator Eugene MacMahon about possible changes in plastic recycling criteria. China is major importer of USA plastic items for reuse and they are having difficulty cleaning American plastic containers, which effects quality of products.
  - d. Open Space Update – Erich Kamm provided a brief history/status of the ridge on the south end of town, including the Pinnacle property. He requested that the Commission support an effort to re-kindle the Mayor & Council's interest in acquiring the property, or at least try to get their opinions on the matter. He expressed a concern that there is no present interest by M&C to purchase the property, and indicated the safe way to truly stop the threat of construction would be to acquire the property. Of the

two Council members present at the meeting, Councilwoman Stagg expressed her continued desire to preserve the property, and Councilman Kulmala indicated an interest to do so and indicated he would support the effort to present this matter for consideration by the Mayor& Council. Councilwoman Stagg gave a brief history of the prior grants for the property, and the owner's unwillingness to sell the property, and agreed that the Commission should raise the issue with the Mayor& Council.

6. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**

- a. Current Projects – Master Plan will be discussed soon. River Road houses are on for April meeting.
- b. Meeting Schedule – Second Tuesday and Thursday of March as usual.

7. **Budget Status** – Budget is under discussion by Mayor& Council.

8. **Close Meeting** – Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM. Next meeting April 1, 7:30pm.  
Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.

## Oakland Environmental Commission

**April 1, 2014**

1. **Open to public** 7:35 PM. Meeting called to order by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present: Erich Kamm, Mark Ostapczuk, Michael Kozak, Alex Myers, Michael DaSilva, Peter Tuohy.
2. **Meeting Minutes Review** from 3/4/2014 – Changes submitted and approved.
3. **Old Business**
  - a. **Stewart's Woods Update** – DPW installed waste/recycling receptacles by path near Rt. 202. Mark will contact DPW for black and transparent garbage bags for April 26, 9 AM clean-up.
    1. **Nature trail pamphlet** – Commission is looking at options for pamphlet. Nancy will contact Boy Scouts. Mike DaSilva is contacting WPU students. Alex offered to help Scouts.
    2. **May 10 opening ceremony** – Press release has been submitted for the 10 AM event and the following nature trail walk and refreshments. Visitors include Stewart family, Boro officials, and Boy Scouts who completed the trail project. The general public is also invited.
  - b. **NRI** comments sent to Debbie – Nancy reviewed submitted comments. Oakland-specific data has been added to report. Draft will be submitted to Planning Board for adoption soon. Copies can be made available in the library and on-line on Borough website.
  - c. **Cross roads** - next article due July – Gina submitted article to OCC for the spring edition.
  - d. **FLOW eco movies**: Thursdays May1, 8, 22, 29 at Wyckoff Public Library, 200 Woodland Ave. at 7 PM. Flyers are being circulated. The event and student video competition are being publicized in 3 towns and at the local high schools and middle schools. BD is a sponsor.
  - e. **Earth Day plans** – April 26- Stewart Woods 9AM. Great Oak Park clean-up 11AM-2PM. The YES teams of Valley Middle school will run a town-wide clean up Saturday May 17th.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **Town Picnic** is June 25 -28 this year. Gina is preparing various ANJEC displays such as a Carbon Footprint poster and a prize-wheel game. The NRI can have main points displayed.
  - b. **Bird count of Great Oak Park** – Erich Kamm proposed a species identification and wildlife management plan for Great Oak Park. Bird identification has been, and is being, done on the property, and there was discussion about organizing a bird count/walk or nature walks. The Commission voted to initiate the effort. Chair Nancy Krause appointed a subcommittee to plan and initiate the effort. Alex Myers, Michael DaSilva, Kirsten DaSilva and Erich Kamm volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. Alex has GPS equipment which can be used in mapping places in the Park. Mark Ostapczuk noted that Lee Haymon has a species identification list that was done last year. Kirsten would like to include Green-team.
  - c. **Open space letter** – Erich Kamm will compose a letter to Mayor& Council concerning the Bi-County property and urge the Mayor& Council to consider purchasing the property.
  - d. **Open Space Management ANJEC workshop** April 29, 7-9PM in Roseland, NJ is open for all Commissioners. Requisition requests for \$10 fee may be submitted to the Borough.
5. **Committee Updates**
  - a. **Great Oak Park Update** - Mark Ostapczuk reported that a Park clean-up will take place on Saturday, April 26, 11AM – 2PM. Boy Scouts are preparing to conduct a Park-wide clean-up as an Eagle Scout project. Sports Association of Oakland is planning fund-raising events.
  - b. **Green Team Update** – Mike & Kirsten Da Silva reviewed schedule for re-certification.
  - c. **Recycling Update** – Boro recycling company may start charging for improper recycling.
6. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**
  - a. Current Projects – Floodplain house-lifting projects are awaiting DEP review.
7. **Budget Status** – Funds for event refreshments are being requested from Public Events Comm.
8. **Close Meeting** – Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM. Next meeting May 6, 7:30PM.
9. Jerri Angermueller, Secretary, submitted minutes.

## Oakland Environmental Commission July 1, 2014

1. **Open to public** – Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice Chairman Mark Ostapczuk. Members present were Lee Haymon, Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers, Michael Kozak, Mike DaSilva, and Peter Tuohy. Meeting was opened to members of the public.

Ryan Schwertfeger spoke about his proposed Dog Park in Oakland. He has been making efforts to find an appropriate site for the Park with little success due to restrictions placed on activities near to watershed and on private property. He asked the OEC to consider locations.

Don Sena spoke on documented spills which have occurred in the USA and Canada from oil pipelines. He asked if the OEC intended to propose a resolution opposing Pilgrim Pipeline.

2. **Meeting Minutes** Review from 5/6/2014, and 6/3/2014- tabled till next meeting.

3. **Old Business**

- a. **NRI** – final draft to the Planning Board for adoption to master plan. Meeting starts at 7 PM Thursday September 11. Members attended presentation by Kratzer Environmental at June meeting. A public comment session is required before adoption. The library will be contacted for possible display of maps and posters from the Carnival Booth.

- b. **Cross Roads** - Next article due September – Gina wrote the spring article. She will continue to submit articles. She will call attention to the new NRI and its upcoming public review.

- c. **Town Carnival public outreach table** – Gina reported on the EC activities at the carnival. NRI map posters and the ANJEC game wheel drew visitors into the booth. The Shade Tree Comm. supplied young Norwegian Spruce trees as a give-away. Green team, the Historical Society and the OEC would like to maintain the same position for the booth at the 2015 Carnival.

- d. **GOP plant survey** – Mike DaSilva reported that the Field Botany Class of Michael Peek at WPU is finalizing the report they are creating on plants in Great Oak Park.

- e. **Bi-County/ Pinnacle Property** – No activity at Planning Board level per Lee Haymon.

- f. **Pilgrim pipeline** – Lee Haymon reported that the pipeline is proposed to follow highway right-of- ways from Albany, NY to Linden, NJ. As a common carrier, the pipeline might fall under FERC regulations. According to Oakland's new NRI, the right-of-ways could run through vernal pool or other environmentally sensitive areas. Leak monitoring would be a top priority for Oakland's water aquifer. Facts must be gathered before a comprehensive statement can be presented to the Mayor& Council and to the public.

4. **New Business**

- a. **Website** needs to be up-dated. Peter Tuohy is on Communications Comm. No up-date news.

5. **Committee Updates**

- a. **Great Oak Park Update** – Lee reported on meeting. A BMX bike track in the Park will hopefully be created for mountain bike training classes through the Recreation commission.



Trout Unlimited helped describe the course of the C-1 stream through the Park. Nancy Krause, Lee Haymon and Alex Myers walked the course to clear out the C-1 stream, as advised by the NJ DEP. The DPW is clearing the asphalt covered parking area for inspection.

Scout project to mark trails by Eric Kozak is proceeding to create a hiking loop. Scout Will Fern's project involves clearing brush by the fence near Doty Road.

b. **Green Team Update Safe-Routes-to-School** – Kirsten DaSilva reported that the Green Team has submitted the proposal for earning points that was required by the June deadline. They are now working to bring the Safe-Routes-to-School grant to Oakland through Sustainable Jersey to help with school access problems, car idling, and exercise for school children. Kirsten said that the Green Team is interested in sponsoring a Green Fair either for Oakland alone or in conjunction with the other FLOW area towns at one of the regional schools. Indian Hills High School students are looking for summer projects where they can act as interns. Interns could work with the Shade Tree Commission, the Green Team, or on recycling or anti-idling projects.

c. **Recycling Update** - The Clean Communities Grant money is being used to perform checks on garbage put out by residents for collection. Red tags are used to remind residents of proper disposal guidelines. It was asked what the consequences of red-tag removal might be. There was also a question as to when the Senior Center will get an outdoor recycling dumpster in addition to regular garbage dumpster. Seniors are willing to recycle if the proper equipment is provided.

d. **Open Space Update** – Erich Kamm can possibly provide information on Bergen County's progress with cleaning up the Camp Tamarack area.

6. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**

- a. **Current Projects** – NRI report will be presented and discussed at the September 11 meeting.
- b. **Meeting Schedule** – Planning Board meetings are held in the Senior Center at 7:00 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

7. **Budget Status** – ANJEC dues have been paid.

8. **Close Meeting** (next meeting August 5, 7:30pm) – Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. Minutes were submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.

## **Oakland Environmental Commission**

### **August 5, 2014**

**1. Open to public** – Meeting was called to order at 7:40 by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Gina Mayer-Costa, Alex Myers, Mark Ostapczuk and Erich Kamm. Pat Pignatelli, Councilman, also attended. The meeting was opened for public comment.

Michael Pritchard and Don Sena spoke on the issue of the proposed Pilgrim Pipeline. They provided information on the dangers of crude and refined oil leaks in the Ramapo Watershed. They are requesting that the Environmental Commission provide a statement to the Mayor& Council that would assist the Borough in making a definitive statement against the building of an oil pipeline through Oakland or anywhere in the Ramapo Aquifer. They listed other local towns that passed resolutions expressing opposition to construction of the pipeline. They asked to be informed of the date when this letter will be presented to M&C.

**2. Meeting Minutes Review** from 5/6/2014, and 6/3/2014, 7/1/2014 – Tabled to September.

**3. Old Business**

a. **Stewart's Woods Update**

New Eagle Scout project - Riley Beach is applying for permission to do his Eagle project including a kiosk and pamphlet on the wildlife and plants of Stewart Woods.

b. **NRI Final Draft** will be discussed by the Planning Board, September 11 at 7 PM in the Senior Center. They will forward their position to the Mayor& Council for adoption to Oakland's Master Plan. The meeting is open to the public for comments, questions and discussion. This plan will be reviewed roughly every three years for potential amendment, and have a scheduled revision between 9 and 10 years, where a new plan is put in place based on current and perceived future needs.

c. **Cross Roads**, Next article due September – Information on the Green Team and the NRI has been included in recent articles. Single Stream recycling and Great Oak Park have also been highlighted.

d. **GOP plant survey** – An outline has been prepared. Alex Myers is working with Al LoPilato, former commissioner, and a college student on completing the survey.

e. **Bi-County Property** – The DEP is currently reviewing the correspondence it received in the public comment period. An updated decision is due. The Env. Comm. spoke of writing a letter to Bergen County, the Oakland Mayor& Council and other potential buyers concerning the need for purchasing this property to maintain it as open- space. An appraisal is being performed on the property to obtain a valid purchase price.

f. **Pilgrim pipeline** – Commission members are creating a statement to present to Mayor& Council, expressing a position on construction of the proposed pipeline, in addition to existing pipelines, through land in Oakland. The professional geologist on the Commission is collecting data and will work on the statement. The opinion should be presented to the Council before the first meeting in September to be included on the agenda. The residents who spoke at open session presented several sources of data to help in constructing a sound and valid opinion. The Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Report was one of the documents presented to the Commission. Discussion covered the possibility of a spill reaching the Ramapo River and Pompton Lake, which could get pumped up to the Wanaque Reservoir. Safety mechanisms of



16” and 18” oil pipelines and quantities of oil involved were considered. Borough resources would necessarily be responsible and involved in any potential clean-up.

- g. **Website** – Gina is working with the Green Team to create an Oakland environmental site for the Team and Commission. [www.MyOakland.org](http://www.MyOakland.org) has been suggested as a name. Other suggestions are requested and will be considered.

#### **4. New Business**

- a. **Safe Routes to School** – The Green Team has composed a letter to the Borough requesting sidewalks near Heights School and Valley Middle School to improve safe access. The Commission voted unanimously to support this letter.
- b. **Green Fair at Ramapo High School March 7<sup>th</sup> 2015** – Franklin Lakes and Wyckoff are working with college students, and would like to have Oakland EC also be involved.

#### **5. Committee Updates**

- a. **Great Oak Park Update** – Mark Ostapczuk reported on the most recent meeting. Scout troops have been contacted by “Save-a Tree” to propose a project which would help preserve the Great White Oak Tree after which the park is named. An opening of the Park has been proposed for Labor Day and is under consideration. Paths markers are being installed through two Eagle Scout projects. Access is a consideration.
- b. **Green Team Update** - The Team needs to earn 150 points to maintain Bronze status with Sustainable Jersey. 95 points are imminent. 55 more points need to be achieved. An anti-idling program at the schools is being seriously considered. The DPW is planning a rain-garden in front of the new DPW building. September 14 is the next deadline.
- c. **Recycling Update** – Residents have contacted the Borough concerning litter along Skyline Drive. Access to the roadside is restrained for safety reasons, and needs to be carefully considered. Councilman Pignatelli proposed contacting the County Executive for possible assistance on this County road. Recycling needs to be improved in the schools and other public buildings.
- d. **Open Space Update** – Potential purchase of the Bi-County property was discussed.

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

- a. Current Projects – The NRI will be presented for public discussion at the September 11 meeting 7PM at the Senior Center before adding it to the Borough Master Plan.

#### **7. Budget Status** – Status Quo

#### **8. Close Meeting** - Next meeting September 2, 7:30pm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30. Minutes submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller

## Oakland Environmental Commission September 2, 2014

1. **Open to public** – The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM by Chairwoman Nancy Krause. Members present were Lee Haymon, Alex Myers, Mark Ostapczuk, Erich Kamm, Michael Kozak, and Peter Tuohy. Pat Pignatelli is now Council Liaison in place of Betsy Stagg..
2. **Meeting Minutes Review** from 5/6/2014, and 6/3/2014, 7/1/2014, 8/5/2014. Minutes were reviewed, amended and accepted.
3. **Old Business**
  - a. **Pilgrim pipeline** – Nancy presented a position draft. It was discussed and additions and amendments were made. The general document favoring disapproval of the Pilgrim pipeline was approved unanimously. The final wording, to be completed by subcommittee, will be distributed to Commission members for final approval before the September 10<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Councilman Pignatelli was advised that the statement expressing reasons for opposing the pipeline will be presented to the Council at the meeting. Emergency access and terrain difficulties, in the case of a pipeline compromise, were mentioned for inclusion
  - b. **NRI** –Final draft goes to the Planning Board for adoption to master plan at 7PM Sept. 11.
  - c. **Cross Roads** - Next article due by September 19<sup>th</sup>. Submit ideas to Gina Mayer-Costa.
  - d. **GOP plant survey** – Alex Myers reported that a rough draft should be ready by October.
  - e. **Bi-County Property** – Councilman reported that legal options are being investigated and pursued by the NJ Highlands Coalition. The Borough has received an appraisal on the value of the property. The Commission continues to support purchase of the property, if possible.
  - f. **Website** – Gina has created the website [MyGreenOakland.org](http://MyGreenOakland.org). She will maintain the site for Green Team and the Environmental Commission for the time being.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **FLOW film festival costs** – Nancy reported that some expenses for the FLOW eco-film festival in the spring were not covered by BD as expected, so the 3 town commissions will be covering them. Oakland's share is \$213.48. Nancy will be discussing this with the Boro Administrator. Funds for Green-events were included in the budget 2014 request. The expenditure was approved by Commission members.
  - b. **EC contact list update** – A Commission contact list will be circulated on line for members to update. The up-dated list will be posted in Drop Box.
  - c. **FLOW Green Fair** –March 7, 2014 – It was discussed whether commissioners were interested in working on this Fair. Carole Holden of Franklin Lakes and Sue Barbuto of Wyckoff will be contacted to determine progress they have been able to make. High school and college students will be invited to help with the project. The Public Events Committee will also be contacted to see if they can offer financial support.

d. **Camp Tamarack** – Michael Kozak brought up a clean-up of Camp Tamarack as a source of possible Eagle Scout projects. Pat Pignatelli suggested that the County Executive's office be contacted for permission to do projects on the property. Kathleen Donovan should be contacted by the Northwest Council of Boy Scouts for permission from Bergen County.

5. **Committee Updates**

a. **Great Oak Park Update** - Mark and Lee attended the meeting. Sav-a-Tree reported that the Great White Oak is potentially near 500 years old. They presented a 3 - 7 year restoration plan with kelp-based phosphate-free fertilizer, under-story and poison-ivy removal. The Boy Scout projects are on-going. Committee members are discussing emergency response strategies for Park visitors. The DEP wants to see evidence that an impervious surface existed in the park previously before granting permission for any uses.

b. **Green Team Update** – Michael Kozak reported that recertification is nearing completion. Actions need to be posted to the Sustainable Jersey website. Safe-Routes-to-School will be pursued along with anti-idling and several other projects.

c. **Recycling Update** – Erich Kamm reported that recycling containers were limited in the Recreation Fields at a recent sports event. Garbage could not be separated.

d. **Open Space Update** – Continental Soldiers Park in Mahwah is a walking trail that Oakland could consider as a good role model for its open-space parks.

6. **Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Update**

a. **Current Projects** – Reconstruction and elevation of two River Road houses was approved. The height ordinance can be exceeded in the case of flood plain property

b. **Meeting Schedule** – The NRI discussion is scheduled for Thursday, 9/11/14 at 7 PM at the Senior Center building.

7. **Budget Status** – Nancy will be requesting reimbursement of expenses incurred by the FLOW area Eco-film event in Wyckoff. ANJEC Congress is coming up Friday October 24<sup>th</sup>. The registration fee is \$60 for people registering before 10/10/14; \$70 after that date.

8. **Close Meeting** – Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM (next meeting October 7, 7:30pm). Minutes submitted by Jerri Angermueller, secretary.

## Oakland Environmental Commission October 7, 2014

1. **Meeting called to order** at 7:30 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members in attendance: Lee Haymon, Gina Mayer-Costa, Michael Kozak, Mark Ostapczuk, and council-liaison Pignatelli.
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** – 7:35PM - Don Sena thanked the Commission for their support with the Pilgrim Pipeline issue. He asked that Commission members attend the 10/8 council meeting to continue to protect the Borough on this matter. Michael Pritchard reported that he will attend the council meeting and provide further information on the commercial interests of Pilgrim Co
4. **Meeting Minutes Review** from 9/2/2014 – Minutes were reviewed, amended and approved.
5. **Old Business**
  - a. **Pilgrim pipeline** – Discussion took place during open-to-public session. Councilman Pignatelli has been speaking with State representatives about the issue and expressing the public concern about possible environmental contamination from piped oil. He noted that the discussion will continue at the Mayor & Council meeting. A recent news article on expanding rail facilities for oil delivery to the Newark Bay refineries was discussed. Members of the public and the EC will continue to encourage the Borough to discourage the pipeline route.
  - b. **NRI** – adopted by Planning Board to Master Plan. The final corrected version was delivered. Kratzer Environmental submitted an invoice for final payment.
  - c. **CrossRoads, next article due December** – The fall edition reported on the changes to plastic recycling which have recently taken place for the Borough. It reported on the Sustainability efforts of the Green Team including the recent anti-idling day. A composting seminar was reported as being hosted by the Environmental Commission to take place at Riverside Nursery on Saturday 10/11/14 at 11AM.
  - d. **Great Oak Park plant survey** – Tabled to next meeting
  - e. **Bi-County Property** – No new activity
  - f. **Website** – Gina is continuing work on the website.
  - g. **EC contact list update** – The updated list was posted to DropBox by Michael Kozak.
  - h. **Green Fair** - March 7, 11-4PM – Carole Holden of Franklin Lakes is continuing to plan for a Fair with the help of the Commissions and high school students. She will keep us informed. Sustainable Jersey credits would be earned by Green Fair participation.
6. **New Business**
  - a. **2015 Film Festival** - Nancy has been contacted by the FLOW area environmental commissions which would like to continue the Eco-film Festival into 2015.
7. **Committee Updates** -
  - a. **Great Oak Park Update** – Lee & Mark reported on the meeting. Erich Kozak's Scout project is on-going. Bill Wyckoff is helping to clear brush on site, and exposing remains of former entertainment spots such as a mini-golf course, a swing site and pavilion. Former driveways have been uncovered. The DEP will be visiting the site to determine permitted activities. The next Great Oak Park meeting will take place on Tuesday 10/14/14.
  - b. **Green Team Update** – Gina reported that the 155 Sustainable Jersey points have been earned for the Borough to maintain Bronze status. 20 points were for the NRI being complete and accepted by the Planning Board. Anti-idling project was carried out on 9/26/14 at all four

Borough schools. Information flyers and parent pledges were distributed on-line and in the parking lots as parents picked up their children from schools. Many parents signed pledges to avoid idling their vehicles. Police Officer Sanzari accompanied Green Team members at the schools to let people know that idling for over 3 minutes is illegal.

Refillable drinking bottles are currently not allowed at schools. This should be rethought with Green-Team support. Next Green Team meeting is Nov. 11, 7:30 PM at the Senior Center.

c. **Recycling Update** – The Borough has announced that plastic recycling items are changing due to the close of Green-Skys Recycling Co. Only plastics 1, 2 and 5 will be accepted for now. Residents are being alerted to this by the current CrossRoads issue, but the Commission could publicize it vocally on Channel 77 and the Borough Bulletin Board. Residents could be reminded to make purchases considering recyclability of products' containers.

d. **Open Space Update** – Camp Tamarack still needs to be cleaned up. Michael Kozak reported that a Scout Fest will be taking place in Alpine, 10/10 – 10/12, where he may be able to speak to County Administrator Kathleen Donovan about the issue. She is hoping to attend the event.

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

a. **Current Projects** – 4-5 houses have been approved for elevated-reconstruction near the river. The question was asked: are sidewalks ever required for new house construction? This must be researched.

b. **Meeting Schedule** – Next Planning board meeting will be Thursday, 10/9/14.

9. **Budget Status** – Budget proposal for 2015 is due by November 15, 2014.

10. **Close Meeting** (next meeting November 11, 7:30pm). Meeting was adjourned at 9PM. Minutes were submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.

## **Oakland Environmental Commission**

### **November 11, 2014**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Members present were Alex Myers, Mark Ostapczuk, Michael Kozak, and Peter Tuohy. Councilman 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 – Green Team member Kirsten DaSilva was present.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 10/7/2014 – Minutes amended and approved.
5. Old Business
  - a. Pilgrim pipeline status – News media has reported that the Pilgrim Company has claimed eminent domain rights to enter private property. Council liaison reported that the company does not yet have the approval of the NJDEP and BPU to give it public utilities status. Montville and Mahwah's governing bodies have also spoken out against the pipeline.
  - b. G.O.Park plant survey – Alex Myers is working on this. Overgrowth on the property is being worked on by DPW employees and volunteers.
  - c. Green Fair March 7 - The Fair is being planned to take place at Ramapo High School 11AM – 4PM. It will include informational booths and speakers especially for students.
  - d. 2015 Film Festival – first meeting in November – Sue Barbuto of Franklin Lakes has started planning the meetings to choose the films with Oakland and Wyckoff.
6. New Business
  - a. Bear Beware by the NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife – Peter Tuohy attended the meeting. He reported on information given. Given the recent tragic events in Passaic County, there is a lot of anxiety in our community concerning the numerous black bear in the area. It was discussed that the presentation could be given in Oakland in spring, perhaps in the library. Refer to <http://state.nj.us/dep/fgw/bearfacts.htm> for further information.
7. Committee Updates
  - a. Great Oak Park Update – Mark Ostapczuk reported on the meeting where Scout Eric Kozak spoke about the trail work he is finishing up. A Phase II study is being done by Boswell Engineering. Gerard Berman School classes did a clean-up. The next meeting is Tuesday 11/18/14.
  - b. Green Team Update – Kirsten DaSilva reported on the successful Bronze Certification which now applies till December 31, 2017. Activity will be continuing in the interim. Efforts could be made to reach silver status in the coming years. The next meeting is Monday 11/17 at Senior Ctr. RIH Regional High School has decided to apply for Sustainable Jersey Certification for Schools Program. They will be doing their own actions, but the Borough will be assisting with the Green Fair for shared points.
  - c. Recycling Update – Michael Kozak attended a Franklin Lakes meeting where Ron Lotterman was requested to speak on recycling practices and enforcement that he uses in Fair Lawn. Oakland recycling coordinator Eugene Mac Mahon did flyers that explain the new standard for plastic recycling in Oakland. The Borough will be getting bids for garbage hauler contract in 2015.



The composting seminar at Riverside Nursery inspired certain residents to ask questions about green projects. The Nursery is willing to continue to provide information as a source for Oakland residents. Such programs could be eligible for Sustainable Jersey points.

d. **Open Space Update** (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) – There has been no progress on the Bi-County property per Councilman Pignatelli. Nancy Krause visited the former Camp Tamarack property to observe left over campsites that should be cleaned up. Tires are there which were used as a shooting range. Building remains are potential hazards on site. Michael Kozak is discussing a possible clean-up project with the Boy Scout Council. He is looking to arrange a meeting with Erich Kamm and other Bergen County representatives who are interested. The Hiking Center and Parking areas could be useful for Boy Scouts and others in the future once it is cleaned-up.

Councilman Pignatelli recommended watching the video on stream restoration at: <http://vimeo.com/73171691> . It is an example of what was approved to be done on a section of the Ramapo River in Oakland.

e. **Communications** – website/Crossroads - November 24 is the next deadline for article submissions. Peter Tuohy will be the CrossRoads editor in 2015. Gina Mayer-Costa is continuing work on the Green Oakland website. A video by Trout Unlimited about Ramapo River restoration planned for riverbank stabilization was suggested for a link on the website. Franklin Lakes has a video on recycling. A subcommittee will be formed to work on the website. It is limited to 6 pages.

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

a. **Current Projects** – No new report given. A flood area house on River Road is currently being elevated.

**9. Budget Status** – The 2015 budget request is being submitted. \$1,000 should be requested.

**10. Close Meeting** – Meeting was adjourned at 9:05PM. Next meeting December 2, 7:30pm. Minutes were submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller

## **Oakland Environmental Commission**

### **December 2, 2014**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Nancy Krause. Lee Haymon, Erich Kamm, Michael Kozak, Gina Mayer-Costa, Mark Ostapczuk, Mike DaSilva and Alex Myers were present. Council-liaison 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 – Jack Dauster is assisting Alex Myers on the GO Park plant survey.
4. Meeting Minutes Review from 11/11/2014 Minutes were amended and approved.
5. Old Business
  - a. Pilgrim Pipeline status - Councilman Pignatelli reported on a meeting he attended where options for transporting domestic oil to-and-from refineries in Linden, NJ were discussed. A need for oil needs to be demonstrated before a company will be granted a permit for transporting it. PSE&G has reportedly denied right-of-way access to Pilgrim Pipeline. Nancy Krause is planning to attend a meeting held in Watchung to explain pipeline safety.
  - b. G O Park plant survey - Alex Myers and Jack Dauster are continuing to work on the survey, including taking aerial shots of various areas of the Great Oak Park for GIS map use.
  - c. Green Fair March 7, 11-4pm. Kirsten DaSilva is attending a meeting in Franklin Lakes where further planning for the Green Fair is taking place.
  - d. 2015 Film Festival – First meeting is taking place Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in the Franklin Lakes Library.
6. New Business
  - a. Annual Accomplishments – Submissions are being requested for the report to be presented to the Mayor& Council on Environmental Commission activities for 2014.
7. Committee Updates
  - a. Great Oak Park Update – Lee Haymon attended the most recent meeting. A Phase II study by Boswell Engineering is investigating the results of the Phase I study. The Eagle Scout projects are continuing into the spring. Sav-A-Tree reported that the Great Oak may be one of the oldest trees in Bergen County. A study of the tree will be included in future plans for the Park.

The Committee will ensure that natural areas remain undisturbed, while disturbed are will continue to be used according to past use. Hiking and biking will be allowed following a probable spring opening. Creosote logs or phone poles may not be used in a parking lot because they would introduce a contaminant.
  - b. Green Team Update – Gina Mayer-Costa reported that the team is working on projects which could earn more points. The Community of Commerce is working to include local businesses in sustainable practices.
  - c. Recycling Update – New recycling guidelines need to be further clarified or simplified to respond to residents' continuing questions. Details can be added to website.
  - d. Open Space Update (Bi-County Property/Tamarack) Erich Kamm and Michael Kozak will be contacting Bergen County to work up a plan to clean up Camp Tamarack. The Boy Scout Council is offering to assist in April during their annual Camporee in Mahwah.

e. **Communications** – Website is advancing. Suggestions are needed for information to include. Contact Gina Mayer-Costa. There will be no more CrossRoads until 2015.

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

a. **Current Projects** – No significant projects.

9. **Budget Status** – Budget proposal for 2015 has been submitted to the Borough.

10. **Close Meeting** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:35. The next meeting will be January 20, 7:30pm. The minutes were submitted by Secretary Jerri Angermueller.