

Great Oak Park Committee
Meeting Minutes January 14, 2014
Danny D'Elia Building 24 Lawlor Drive Oakland, NJ 07436

Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Guadagnino at 8:32 pm.

The following Committee members were present: Mike Guadagnino, Steve Saliani, Nancy Larkin, Mark Ostapczuk and Council Liaison Chris Visconti, Lee Haymon was absent. Also present: Tim Contrini, Recording Secretary and Richard Kunz, Borough Administrator.

Meeting Announcement:

Chairman Guadagnino: This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law duly announced and posted in the municipal building.

Election of Officers: Chair and Vice-Chair:

S. Saliani made a motion to nominate Chairman Guadagnino to continue as chairman and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

M. Guadagnino made a motion to nominate Vice-Chair L. Haymon to continue as Vice-Chair and seconded by S. Saliani, all yeas.

Open to the Public:

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Chairman Guadagnino and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

No public wished to speak.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Chairman Guadagnino and seconded by S. Saliani, all yeas.

Approval of Minutes: 10/16/2013, 11/12/2013 and 12/4/2013

S. Saliani reported the minutes are still being finalized and will be ready for approval at the next meeting in February.

Work Session:

Status of Eric Kozak's Walking Trails Project:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Eric is set and ready to get started just waiting for the weather to cooperate, ground is soft and trucks may get stuck.

Chairman Guadagnino also reported the Borough installed new locks on the Doty Road gates that will make access much easier in anticipation of work being started.

Removal of Dead Trees, Branches and Limbs:

Chairman Guadagnino reported that he has been contacted by several tree/landscape companies that are willing to volunteer their services for this task but again we must wait until the weather improves.

Will Fern's Scout Project Proposal:

A presentation was given by Eagle Scout hopeful Will Fern for a project to clean up and beautify the Doty Road entrance and surrounding area. His project is to include removing invasive vegetation and garbage, cleaning up overgrown native species, allowing them to once again flourish and cleaning up overgrown vegetation along Ramapo Valley Road (near Doty Road) to provide a better sightline for drivers. Lastly, he will provide a plasma cut steel sign with the park name and logo, to be installed by the DPW.

Will estimates this project is going to take approximately 130 man hours to complete and he is going to have help from 10-15 friends.

A discussion ensued concerning the disposal of the vegetative debris that is created from the pruning; Will stated he has a family member that can provide a dumpster to haul away the debris. Mr. Kunz said the DPW can take care of it. Chairman Guadagnino said he will consult with the Tree/Landscape companies they should be able to take care of it when they are doing their work, they will have chipping equipment on site.

Chairman Guadagnino asked Mr. Kunz if he heard anything in Will's presentation that may propose any problems. Mr. Kunz replied that a traffic officer be consulted when the pruning along Ramapo Valley Road starts and he needs Council approval and support before any work can commence.

Chairman Guadagnino asked Will to write up a detailed proposal for his project and formally present it to the Park Committee at the next meeting in February.

Once the Park Committee approves Will's proposal the next step is for him to present it to the Borough Council. Councilman Visconti said he will have it put on the agenda.

Old Business:**Status of 501c3 and fundraising efforts:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that Mr. Kunz and he are still working on it, finalizing the details. Chairman Guadagnino also reported that he is going to set up a meeting specifically for fundraising and possibly setting up sub-committees for fundraising. He has been contacted by several people wanting to help with fundraising.

Master Plan-Boswell Engineering:

Mr. Kunz reported that Boswell has been contracted to do the Master Plan and Rebecca is working on it.

New Business:**Possible Private Business Highlands Mitigation Project:**

Chairman Guadagnino reported that a meeting is taking place with local contractor, DR Mullen Construction Co. Inc. of Oakland to discuss a possible Highlands Mitigation Project that could involve the park. Chairman Guadagnino will report back at the next meeting.

New Park Name:

A motion to approve the new park name, Great Oak Park was made by Chairman Guadagnino and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas. Next step is for the Council to approve the new name.

Liaison Report:

Councilman Visconti reported that the funds for Boswell to do the master plan were approved and the Council is excited to see this project move forward.

Open to the Public:

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by M. Ostapczuk and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

No public wished to speak.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by S. Saliani and seconded by M. Ostapczuk, all yeas.

Schedule February Meeting:

Chairman Guadagnino suggested February 11, 2014 at 8:00 pm for the next meeting and all were in agreement. He also stated that he would inform Borough Clerk Lisa Duncan.

Adjournment:

At 9:07 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chairman Guadagnino and seconded by N. Larkin, all yeas.

Tim Contrini

Recording Secretary