**Borough of Oakland, New Jersey**

**SUSTAINABLE OAKLAND GREEN TEAM**

*March 23, 2021 Meeting 7:30 p.m. via ZOOM*

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 7:31 p.m. via ZOOM Video Conferencing. Chair Alison Fleeson, Maria Glasson, Carrie Terwilliger, Jessica Stroud, Andrea Levy, Nancy Krause, Brian Reilly, Salma Shamy, Sarah Michel, Erich Kamn, Council Liaison Eric Kulmala, and Borough Administrator’s Designee Michael Carelli all present. Courtney Carbome, Rachel Spina, and Dana Vodde Andro absent. Motion to excuse Rachel Spina and Courtney Carbome made by Jessica Stroud and seconded by Nancy Krause. All in favor, no abstained or opposed.

**Meeting Announcement:** This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, duly announced, advertised and posted in the municipal building.

**Board Elections:**

- **Vice Chair**
  - Maria Glasson nominated to serve as Vice-Chair for 2021. All in favor. No opposed or abstained.

**Meeting Minutes Approval:**

- **May 2020, June 2020, July 2020, August 2020, and November 2020:**
  - Motion to approve by Andrea Levy and seconded by Nancy Krause. All in favor, no abstained or opposed.

**Open to the Public:**

**Motion to open to the public** made by Nancy Krause and seconded by Carrie Terwilliger. All in favor, no abstained or opposed.

No members of the public present.

**Motion to close to the public** made by Nancy Krause and seconded by Carrie Terwilliger. All in favor, no abstained or opposed.

**Old Business:**

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**ONE MUNICIPAL PLAZA • OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY 07436**
• **Roots for Rivers Invasive Removals**
  - There will be an Invasive Species Removal on Saturday April 10, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Great Oak Park, 23 Doty Road, Oakland, N.J. 07436, and Sunday April 11, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Riverfront Park, 84 Roosevelt Boulevard, Oakland, N.J. 07436. Volunteers are needed and encouraged to attend.

• **Plant Exchange**
  - The Great Plant Exchange will be on Sunday April 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Veterans Park in Oakland. Participants are encouraged to bring as many plants to swap with, and registration is live on the Borough website and Facebook pages.

• **Community Garden Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**
  - The Community Garden Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is Saturday April 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Oakland Community Garden, 1 Municipal Plaza, Oakland, N.J. 07436. The Public Events Committee will be providing refreshments. Ceremony will be taped for Borough YouTube and TV Channel.

• **Roots for Rivers Planting**
  - The Roots for Rivers Planting is Saturday April 24, 2021 and Sunday April 25, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Great Oak Park, 23 Doty Road, Oakland, N.J. 07436, and Saturday May 1, 2021 and Sunday May 2, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Riverfront Park, 84 Roosevelt Boulevard, Oakland, N.J. 07436. Volunteers are needed. Registration is live on Eventbrite.com.

• **Styrofoam Drive Boy Scouts**
  - The Boy Scouts will be hosting a Styrofoam Drive in Oakland in May. Michael Carelli purchased bags for the event. Tent, tables, and chairs are needed from DPW.

• **FLOW Green Film Festival**
  - Public Events Committee is voting on the funding for this at their next meeting. FLOW town representatives are working on the 2021 event. Andrea Levy is Oakland’s representative.

• **Creative Bergen Arts Amble**
  - Patricia Weiman added that the Arts Amble is this June. The Arts Amble has a new website at [www.artsamble.org](http://www.artsamble.org). Social media postings are continuing. FAQ’s sheet has been created.

• **Bat and Bird Boxes**
  - Pat Weiman working with Mike Guadagnino on purchasing extra supplies such as hardware and paint for the boxes. Boxes are expected to be up in the next month.

**New Business:**

• **Subcommittees and Projects**
  - Jessica Stroud expressed interest in the ‘Animals in the Community’ actions. Will work with Ali and Andrea on animal actions.
  - Salma Shamy expressed interest in the Community Garden, Composting, and Recycling Education actions.
  - Brian Reilly expressed interest in assisting with the upcoming Styrofoam Drive, Composting and Recycling initiatives, and perhaps the feasibility for a rain barrel sale program.
  - Maria Glasson expressed interest in the plant sale, community garden projects and education, and plant educational series online.
  - Carrie Terwilliger expressed interest in the solar actions. Michael and Ali will schedule a meeting with the Borough Administrator to discuss the Borough’s feasibility on solar
projects. Chair Alison Fleeson added that Environmental Energy Grants are available through the Sustainable Jersey Program each year. Carrie Terwilliger also expressed interest in the ‘Green Challenge’ action, and will look into it further.

- Borough Administrator Designee Michael Carelli is working on the Energy Tracking and Management Action, as well as the completion of the Energy Efficiency Upgrades Projects. They are expected to be complete shortly.

- Community Garden:
  - There was a discussion on obtaining additional items for the Oakland Community Garden such as an irrigation system and a storage shed. The Green Team is exploring the idea of additional donations or grants.

Motion to Close by Pa: Weiman and Seconded by Carrie Terwilliger. All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Next Meeting on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via ZOOM Video Conferencing.