

## **Oakland Environmental Commission Meeting August 2009**

The August meeting of the Oakland Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Lee Haymon at 7:35 PM. Members present were Michael Kozak, Michael Lynch, Nancy Krause, Erich Kamm, Mark Ostapczuk, and Robert Akovity.

It was moved and seconded to open the meeting to the public:

Krystal Persaud, a resident of Oakland who will be graduating from Georgia Tech next year, is interested in encouraging increased recycling and reduction of packaging materials. She spoke about a project study she did in Sweden, where residents sort 10 types of refuse, and Closed Loop a non-profit organization she is attempting to start to help companies and/or groups to “Reduce, reuse, recycle”. She would like to continue to be involved with the Environmental Commission.

### Old Business

- a. Town Fair Booth Wrap-up – Robert Akovity expressed gratitude for all the help members put in during the 3 days of the Town Carnival. 82 names were gathered on the pledge to “Keep Oakland Green.” They received reusable water bottles and bags for a pledge. Per Erich, Rob should write up a resume for next year with comments for improvements. A banner and/or t-shirts for the next year’s tent for the Environmental Commission would help. Tables and a concise action plan are key. A Go-Green-Oakland logo was discussed.
- b. Green Team – Mayor is working on getting list together. Lee will contact the Mayor, Betsy Stagg and Borough Administrator on progress to see if they want OEC help.
- c. Sustainability FS – Robert Akovity will meet with Erich, Michael Kozak and Lee Haymon to discuss the study for achieving the necessary points for Sustainable Jersey.
- d. Trail Grant – Mike Miner had informed Commission that Boswell is doing some pro gratis work on the project for a walking/biking path around the Recreation Fields. Darren Ward’s input is needed on the Trail Grant. Mike Lynch is following ANJEC’s grants.

### New Business

- a. Web-page and e-mail – A list of e-mail addresses was collected at the Town Fair from people signing a recycling pledge. These will be entered into a g-mail mailing list for information from the Oakland Environmental Commission by Mike Lynch.
- b. Recycling Update – Michael Kozak reported on a Wal-Mart World-side sustainable index program, which he found described on-line. Wal-Mart is encouraging content information. Robert Akovity discussed the Valley Middle School ‘We Can Change the World’ Program.
- c. Open-Space Update – Erich Kamm reminded everyone that the Heritage Hills grant is available from the County until November. Erich will contact Betsy on the town progress. The Pinnacle Property was to be discussed at 7:30 on 8/12/09 in the Council Chambers.
- d. Planning Board – Michael Kozak wants to investigate green building requirement laws.

Budget Status – the Budget has passed. The payment of ANJEC dues has been encumbered.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM. The minutes are submitted by Jerri Angermueller - Secretary