

Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Environmental Resources Committee Minutes

Regular Meeting, Monday, October 7, 2013

1. Call to order By Heather Muzzy at 10:03
2. Roll call: Heather Muzzy, George Hanley, Mike Flood, Tim Mack, Susan Donovan, and Beth Sheridan. Joe Leveque arrived at 10:30. Absent Harold Flood, Tony Cook, Erin Gallagher.
3. Determination of a quorum: 6 voting members
4. Public comments: Patty Clair, owner of Recycling Sisters of Ortonville spoke to us about her business; she plans to attend 2014 farmer's markets on a monthly basis. Her company will pick up large appliances at peoples homes. She mentioned that Goodwill takes TV and computer monitors, and is paid by manufacturers to provide that service.
5. Approval of minutes for August 2013 meeting: Mike Flood made the motion to approve, Beth Sheridan seconded; approved.
6. Approval of agenda: Tim Mack made the motion to approve, Mike Flood seconded; approved
7. Pending business
 - A. Parks and Rec Master Plan Input Open House Oct 16 - Heather encouraged all to attend the Open House which is from 5-7, and suggested that it gets put on the township website and Facebook. She also encouraged us all to take the survey, and she pointed out that it had 2 parts, the first the actual survey, and the second an interactive map where people can submit and comment on others ideas. One problem she noted was that people comment on parks that aren't actually Orion Township parks.
 - B. Clinton River Watershed Clean-ups Oct 16 –10:00am meet at Gingellville Nature Center.
2:30 pm meet at Waldon Middle School
4:00pm meet at Kroger on Baldwin

Sue will find a business that can let us put the trash gathered in their dumpster, and also promote the event.
 - C. Gingell Nature Area Phragmites Treatment – Sue provided a report that proposes that Orion Township ask for the ability to allow amendments to the permit when applying for a phragmites permit for 2014, so that affected areas in Orion Township owned by businesses, schools or private citizens, could also be covered by the same permit. (See attached report). Discussion followed about whether we should recommend this to the township; another suggestion was that instead of the amendments, the township or our committee could come up with a set of instructions for residents to apply for their own permits. After much debate, it was decided that we needed to set up a meeting with township officials to discuss what direction Orion Township would like to go with this, since Township employees would be integral parts of some of the possible plans. Sue Donovan will set up a meeting with the township.

Heather mentioned approaching ITC to get them to treat their phragmites.

It was discussed that we need to get information on where phragmites are currently being treated out to the public. It was also discussed that we need a strategy to build momentum behind the treatment process.

- D. Watershed crossing signs update: The signs are printed, and Chris Barnett, with help from JoAnn VanTassel, will decide where they should be placed, stake the placement sights, and the DPW will install them yet this fall or in the spring. Heather and Sue are obtaining material to create a presentation board to display for PR about the watershed signs.

8. New business

- A. Press Releases: George will revise Beth's phragmites press release, and submit it to the township for approval. Susan will send the press release about the watershed to Heather to edit, and then submit to the township for approval. Joe and Heather will edit the disposal press release, and then submit to the township clerk's office for approval. Heather is drafting an email to send out via the school's email blast.
- B. Eagle Valley Community Information meeting Oct 16: Invitation only, Heather will attend to share and receive information. Trail Water Land Alliance update.
- C. Invasive Treatment Project in Orion Oaks County Park: Phragmites treatment has been going on at the north entrance making sure it doesn't reach Lake 16, and the county has also been treating golf courses. A project with Orion Township and Oakland County was discussed to saw out buckthorn and take out dead wood on the north fence and southeast corner of Orion Oaks Park.
- D. Membership Change: Township will be formalizing membership changes to our committee at its next meeting.

9. Reports

- A. NO HAZ 2013 September at Wildwood
Orion resident vehicles - 441
Total vehicle count -1059
- B. Eagle Valley Disposal Day
2013 vehicle count -270
2012 vehicle count -205

Committee comments- None

10. Adjournment Joe Leveque motioned to adjourn, George Hanley seconded; approved.

Next meeting is November 4, 2013 at 10am at Orion Center