

Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Environmental Resources Committee Minutes Draft

Regular Meeting, Monday, December 2, 2013

1. Call to order: 10:03am by Heather Muzzy
2. Roll call: Heather Muzzy, Joe Laveque, Mike Flood, George Hanley, Sue Donovan, Beth Sheridan, and Tim Mack
3. Determination of a quorum: yes, 7 members present
4. Public comments: None
5. Approval of minutes for November 2013 meeting: Mike Flood moved and George Hanley seconded to approve as corrected; approved.
6. Approval of agenda: Joe Laveque moved and George Hanley seconded to approve as amended; approved.
7. Pending business
 - A. Press Releases: Sue Donovan will email the watershed press release to Mike Flood, who will send it for approval to Chris Barnett with instructions for him to forward it to the media. We hope to get this press release out this week, before December 6th. Joe Laveque will write the NO HAZ press release and submit for approval. The NOHAZ press release will go out in January, and we discussed highlighting details about how the NOHAZ days are organized and funded, to make the public aware of the need to consolidate cars to save gas, shorten lines, and keep the NOHAZ program free of charge to Orion citizens. The Phragmites press release authored by George Hanley will be released later in the spring.
 - B. ONTV programs – agenda: George Sinnott, who coordinates the Active Living programming, is interviewing Heather Muzzy and Mike Flood on December 3 for what we hope to be the first in a series of episodes that ONTV will produce about environmental issues in the township. This first episode will focus on our committee:
 - OTERC bylaws
 - What the OTERC has accomplished thus far
 - Our objectives for the future as a committee

Future episodes will focus on individual issues that we are addressing, such as NOHAZ days and phragmites, perhaps including Ms. Calio from the Oakland County NOHAZ consortium to broaden our possible audience. All episodes will be broadcast on channel 10, viewable on the ONTV website, and hopefully the YouTube links will be promoted via the township website and Face book and will be used as an excellent marketing tool for our committee's environmental issues.

There was discussion on developing better communication strategies to make the public aware of the harmful effects phragmites have on the environment, the treatment process for eliminating stands of phragmites and other invasive species, and the process that homeowners, businesses, and schools need to go through to get permits to eliminate phragmites. It was decided that we would continue the conversation once the township determines its exact permit process, and if areas other than township land will be included in that process. We also discussed developing a township map that indicates stands of phragmites.

In the spirit of compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Township at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting if requesting accommodations.

- C. Home Owners Association Meetings – February: After discussing the issue, we want to approach Chris Barnett and suggest a Home Owners Association meeting for February, to include a short presentation by our group and an informational display table. Heather Muzzy agreed to talk to Chris Barnett, and Joe Laveque will help with the presentation, to include retention pond maintenance.

8. New business

- A. Flyers in Chamber bags for new homeowners: The Orion Environmental Flyers were not included in winter tax bills because of the timing, but we will include them in the Welcome Wagon bags that the Chamber has developed for new builds in Orion Township. We will try for including the flyers in June tax bills. Mike Flood will get an exact price and deadline for printing and stuffing the flyers for the June tax bills, and Beth Sheridan and Heather Muzzy will then contact business whose names are included on the flyer for donations.
- B. Presentation to the BOT – Chris Barnett requests a recommendation from our committee in regards to considering the single trash hauler issue. After discussion, this was tabled until next meeting.
- C. Table displays (revise and tour): Beth Sheridan agreed to revise the NOHAZ display by the end of December, and Beth Sheridan and Sue Donovan will revise the Environmental Committee display by the end of January.
- D. Green Expo 2014 date: Wednesday, March 19th, 11:00am-5:00pm. This will be on our agenda for February.
- E. Kroger Proposed Gas Station: PC-2013-03, Shops on Waldon Pond Planned Unit Development (PUD) Amendment to construct Kroger Fuel Facility D-649, southeast corner of Baldwin and Waldon Roads is scheduled on the December 4, 2013 planning commission agenda under "8. Unfinished Business-"A".

9. Reports

- A. NO HAZ 2014 location update: Orion Township is working on making the Wildwood site feasible to host NOHAZ 2014. The township's primary focus is keeping it at Wildwood.
- B. Membership Update: Joe Laveque has agreed to renew his term until December, 2016. Anthony Cook is now an alternate instead of a voting member.

- 10. Committee comments: Heather Muzzy and Mike Flood will contact the township and the post office to let them know that Griffin Waste hauler is illegally putting flyers in mailboxes. Sue Donovan will contact the board member of her homeowners association about the issue. Mike Flood reported that Penny Shults gave the hauler report to the board, and there were no violations or problems reported.

- 11. Adjournment: Tim Mack motioned to close the meeting, Mike flood seconded; the motion was approved; meeting adjourned at 12:02pm.

Next meeting is February 3, 2014 at 10am at Orion Center

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