

**Charter Township of Orion**  
Oakland County Michigan

**Environmental Resource Committee Minutes**

Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 7, 2017  
Orion Center 7:00PM

1. **Call to order** by the Chair 7:07 pm
2. **Roll Call:**  
Present: George Hanley, Mike Deluca, Corinna Womack, Austin Edwards, Jessie Richmond.  
Absent (with notice): Rodney Tocco, Matthew Menghini, Kristen Schweitzer. (without notice): Mike Flood, Harold Flood.  
Guest: Arely Zimmerman.
3. **Determination of a quorum:** yes
4. **Public comments:** none
5. **Regular order of business**
  - a. **Approval of minutes:** Richmond moved to accept the November 2 minutes as presented; seconded by Womack; motion carried.
  - b. **Approval of agenda:** Womack moved to approve the agenda for the December 7 meeting as presented; seconded by Deluca; motion carried.
6. **Pending Business:**
  - a. **Reusable bag logo design contest** – Womack and Deluca have established a timeline for the project and drafted a flyer. Deluca spoke with local school administration and the high school art teacher, who are willing to support the project but made a recommendation that a prize be awarded. Hanley offered to donate a \$50 cash prize for the winning entry. Womack received some information from Waste Management but still needs to clarify some details, such as printing and delivery dates. Waste Management has committed to 400 bags in conjunction with their library stewardship. The team will begin to promote the contest after the holiday break. Deluca has been given access to the email account [environment@oriontownship.org](mailto:environment@oriontownship.org), so this can be used for electronic submissions.
  - b. **Green-Up Award**– Metrics were created at the request of some of the committee members, initiating some feedback from the team. We will kick off the project using a 1-10 point scoring system in several categories, normalized by the number of employees in the nominated business, and adjust going forward if necessary. We are still waiting for the township to confirm that they will carry paper nomination forms and accept completed nominations, and will put a link on the township website for electronic forms, which can be sent to the email address above. Deluca and Womack will approach Brian Birney of the Lake Orion Chamber of Commerce for their support.

- c. **Social media contributions** – At this time, we will not create a posting schedule. If anyone has pertinent information to share, it can be submitted for approval on the township website. Once the post is approved it can be shared.
- d. **Composting** – Edwards was not able to find information on the community program in Kenosha, WI. He presented benchmark information about a “sharing table” project in a Florida school. Edwards is still working on parameters for a local project, with a focus on reducing the production of excess food followed by composting unwanted food. Once the mechanics are in place, he would like to make a proposal to local schools to see if they have interest in trying a project. Womack will forward contact information to Edwards for a science teacher at Scripps Middle School. Hanley will reach out to LO Schools Superintendent Marion Ginopolis with a brief overview to see if she would be interested in learning more once the program parameters are defined.

**7. New Business**

- a. **2018 meeting schedule** – M. Flood will be asked to reserve the Arts & Crafts room at the Orion center for the 2018 meeting schedule. Richmond made a motion that for 2018 the committee continues to meet on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm, with the exception of July 2018 when there will be no meeting. Motion was seconded by Deluca; motion carried.
- b. **NEP Program /MGC Challenge** – Richmond reported that the application for The Neighborhood Environmental Partners (NEP) Program, which was created by MDEQ to encourage and reward communities, businesses and their neighbors who work together locally on projects to improve environmental awareness and the quality of life in their communities, has not yet been released. She has been in contact with the program administrator and will continue to check the website for the 2018 application. Once it is available, Richmond will download and add to the agenda so the committee can discuss what projects to submit for consideration. Richmond will also forward information on the Michigan Green Communities (MGC) Challenge to Supervisor Barnett to see if the Township would like to participate in 2018.

8. **Reports** - M. Flood sent a copy of the season wrap-up for No HAZ to all committee members prior to the meeting.

**9. Committee Comments** –

- a. Womack – Questioned if ONTV would highlight the winning business for the Green-Up award. Hanley will contact Ian Locke.
- b. Edwards – Shared information on the Precious Plastics movement to improve plastic recycling in communities.
- c. Deluca – Noted that a residence on Florence St in the Village now has solar panels installed.

10. **Adjournment:** Deluca moved to adjourn at 8:17 pm, seconded by Edwards; motion carried.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2018  
7:00 PM  
Orion Center, Arts & Crafts Room (Tentative)