

Charter Township of Orion
Oakland County, Michigan

Environmental Resource Committee Minutes
Regular Meeting, Thursday, June 1, 2017
Eagle Valley Landfill, Conference Room, 6:00 PM

1. **Call to order** by the Chair 6:00 pm
2. **Roll Call:** Members in attendance: George Hanley, Michael Deluca, Corinna Womack, Harold Flood, Mike Flood and Jessie Richmond. Absent: Kristen Schweitzer, Rodney Tocco, Matt Menghini. Guests: Kathy Klein, Kim Dunn, Austin Edwards, Arelly Zimmermann, Brendan Ruehle
3. **Determination of a quorum:** yes
4. **Public comments:**
 - a. Austin Edwards has been reviewing some local ordinances and would like to know how to request a formal review. It was recommended he attend an Orion Township Board of Trustees meeting, held the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm, and speak up during the public comment portion. Edwards also inquired who was responsible for enforcing the Ordinances. He was directed to Code Enforcement.
 - b. Kim Dunn asked Kathy Klein how Waste Management was chosen as the single waste hauler in Auburn Hills. Klein explained that it was a bid process and they were the lowest bidder. The city council made the decision without putting it on a ballot.
5. **Regular order of business**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes:** Moved by M. Flood, seconded by Richmond, to approve the minutes from the May 4 meeting as presented; motion carried.
 - b. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Richmond, seconded by H. Flood, to amend the June 1 meeting agenda to include tentative topics "Ordinance 73" and "FeedABee" under Pending Business; motion carried.
 - c. **Pending Business**
 - i. **Membership:** The BoT appointed Kristen Schweitzer to the committee as a non-voting member. Visitors were advised to visit www.orientownship.org and complete an application (found under Government > Committees > Committee Openings) if they would like to join the committee. Mail or deliver the completed application to Orion Township Clerk's Office, 2525 Joslyn Rd., Lake Orion, MI 48360 for review and Board of Trustees (BoT) approval.
 - ii. **Status Ordinance 73 (Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Collection):** The BoT tabled the first reading of the proposed revisions to the ordinance at its May 22 meeting, pending completion of a review by the Township's attorney. M. Flood summarized the memo sent to attendees of the joint ZBA/BOT/Planning Commission meeting regarding enforcement of Ordinance 73 – Solid Waste & Recyclable Materials Collection Regulation. Site plans should incorporate regulations from this ordinance. He commented that it is mandatory that all recyclable and trash receptacles are enclosed and covered, and that there are specific hours in which receptacles may be emptied by a trash hauler, but these are not being enforced. He specifically noted the Abitibi paper receptacles.
 - iii. **FeedABee:** Brendan Ruehle, from Supervisor Chris Barnett's office, said the Township has not defined where to plant, but Hanley spoke with the Parks Director who indicated that a possible location is the north side of Friendship Park. Ruehle is working on a proposal for a forage grant

on behalf of the Township. The application deadline is June 15, 2017 for grants awarded in August 2017. The proposal should include a plan to maintain and protect the plants for 3+ years. Ruehle asked for input from the committee on this topic, as the Township will not provide any township labor to maintain the plots. Richmond volunteered to share public grant proposals from other communities for reference. She also suggested that the Township contact the Oakland County Beekeepers Association for support. They are already forage partners with the program and are interested in placing hives in the community, so they may be willing to commit to maintaining the plots in exchange. Deluca offered support in ensuring that any seeds planted or shared with the community do not contain invasive species. Hanley suggested a possible expansion of a site already in place on the Eagle Valley property as part of the grant request project. He has also been contact with an individual who is interested in a FeedABee project as part of a honey harvesting process.

iv.

d. New Business

- i. **Eagle Valley Overview and Tour:** Kathy Klein, Community Affairs Representative for Waste Management of Michigan, presented a history and overview of operations at Eagle Valley Landfill. The landfill began operation in 1985. MDEQ has issued permits as a Type II landfill. Klein explained their 2-layer barrier system with electronic monitoring that prevents contamination of the ground water. Waste Management has a Conservation Easement with MDEQ and maintains wetlands on site. They do extensive work with the Wildlife Habitat Council including nest monitoring. A site tour, including the new expansion, followed the overview.

e. Reports: None

6. Committee comments:

- a. Hanley reminded the committee that we do not have a meeting scheduled for July, but that it would be possible to schedule a special meeting if the need arose. The next scheduled meeting is August 3, 2017.
- b. Womack requested that the next meeting agenda include community education and outreach. Klein responded that WM would have interest in being a sponsor of the project for designing reusable shopping bags, or in linking it with a current donation of bags to the OT library.
- c. H. Flood reminded the committee that the next free disposal day at Eagle Valley is June 3.
- d. M. Flood informed the committee that there are 2 upcoming NoHaz days before our next meeting, one on June 24 at Oakland University and one on July 22 at N. Sashabaw Elementary School in Clarkston. Volunteers are needed for these and future events. H. Flood expressed thanks that these events were free for Township residents due to an agreement made with Waste Management as part of their expansion project.. Flood also reiterated that the Township is looking for volunteers for an ad hoc committee to explore the topic of a single trash hauler throughout the Township.
- e. Deluca has submitted a request to the Township to update information and hyperlinks on their website.

7. Adjournment: M. Flood moved to adjourn at 8:50 pm, seconded by Womack; motion carried.

Next meeting Thursday, August 3, 2017
7:00 pm
Orion Center (tentative)