

Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Environmental Resources Committee Minutes - Draft
 Annual Election of Officers Meeting, per OTERC Bylaws section 8, C.
 Thursday, August 5, 2021 at 7pm
 Orion Art Center – Multi Purpose Room

1. Call to order by the Chair – 7:06pm

2. Roll call

	Present <i>(location)</i>	Absent
Voting Members		
George Hanley (Lake Orion)	x	
Mike Flood (Board Rep) (Lake Orion)		x
Tom Fisher (Lake Orion)	x	
Paige Porter		x
Corinna Womack (Lake Orion)	x	
Denise Burns	x	
Samantha Bell (via phone)	x	
Non-Voting Members		
Michael DeLuca		x
<i>Student Vacancy</i>	NA	NA
Alternates		
Harold Flood (Ohio)		x

3. Also in attendance: Bob Hazzard to discuss his work with Recycle Bank

4. Determination of a quorum – yes

5. Public comments – NA

6. Regular order of business

- a. OTERC Introduction of members
- b. Approval of minutes from May 2021 meeting – Corinna made a motion to approve the May minutes; George seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
- c. Approval of agenda for August 2021 regular meeting – Tom made a motion to amend the agenda and move Single Hauler Plan and Recycle Program as the first agenda item topic. George seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
- d. Pending business
 - i. Single Hauler plan and recycle program – George held up a small postcard and asked if everyone received it in the mail. The postcard referred to the Recycle Bank program that was mailed out to the residents to arrive in May. Denise commented that she was unable to access the Recycle Bank link via different web browsers. Bob Hazzard provided an overview of changes in the Recycle

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credit program as well as the choices of Rewards available and commented that there are currently 127 “rewards” available. One can sort the Rewards list by Newest, and it will then sort by address and a link to a “map”. Unfortunately, the link to a map does not work. Reward points accumulate for participants by using the Township provided recycle bin which generates points each week a house recycles as well as offering points for going on line for educational opportunities to learn about recycling through quizzes and reading articles. George noted residents must go on line or call in to sign up for an account in order to accrue credits which are permanent until used. Over the past year and a half, only about 15% of eligible households have been enrolled, with the card mailing boosting the number in May and June to about 17%. Redemptions had been averaging in the area of 20 to 30 per month but rose to about 70 recently. Points can also be donated. Bob commented that the most points that can be spent is 2000 points on a People magazine subscription; most prizes are 400 points. Bob suggests using the desk top version for Recycle bank as the app version doesn’t work well. There are various categories for prizes, some of which do not contain items. There is a Pay with Points option as well. The goal for OTERC is to ensure the Recycle Bank program is communicated with all Orion residents for full participation in the program. A benefit of the program is to be “rewarded” with prizes based on points earned which can be redeemed at local businesses. Bob Hazzard offered to provide an in person teaching session for senior residents as well as to others interested and Tom also offered to assist with that in person session on how residents can sign up for the program as well as use the site and earn and redeem rewards. Corinna suggested putting together an online tutorial and posting on the Township website. Denise offered to put together the tutorial. Corinna will work with Denise to get it posted to the Township site.

- ii. Quarterly Green Up Award – Tom talked to Wind Secure which is a local company that works on wind turbines. The company has 70 farms that they worked last year across the US. Most of their fifteen employees live in North Oakland County while the rest reside in Genesee and Lapeer. They deal with the turbine base and has a patent for the bolts to combat corrosion issues. Corinna made a motion to propose Wind Secure as the next Quarterly Green Up recipient and Denise seconded; all in favor, motion was carried. Tom will provide a write-up of the company and will work with Sam, who offered to write up an article to be published in the Orion Review. Corinna will follow up with Mike Deluca on status of previous awardees and if they were presented with the award.
 - iii. Feed A Bee status/ alternate project lead – Corinna asked if there were any volunteers to continue the great work of previous members. Denise suggested partnering with the Rotary club and Corinna suggested putting a query on the Orion Township website to ask for public volunteers. Previously, OTERC had worked with Aaron Whatley (Parks and Rec) and had their support on a small plot of land at Friendship Park for this effort. Any volunteers on the committee to continue to lead this effort to contact Corinna.
 - iv. Greenup Bag award status – Corinna to contact Mike Deluca on current status of this. Corinna explained previous timeline and background to newer OTERC members.
- e. New Business:
- i. Membership status – Sam Bell was moved to a Voting member, from Alternate.

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- ii. Environmental Resources Document 2021 updates – Corinna explained the history and background of this and is seeking volunteers to review and update this. Any volunteers, please contact Corinna.
- f. Reports
- i. Phragmite status – George provided a hardcopy of the 2021 Phragmites Program Application Packet and provided a background and status of his efforts. He indicated that he drives around the local area and works with businesses to educate them as well as helps assist them to fill out the phragmites application packet. George reiterated that phragmites treatment needs to be continued annually to ensure that the invasive species is managed and eliminated.
7. Committee comments - Tom indicated he had an interest in getting solar panels added to Township buildings as well as vehicle charging stations to be offered in Lake Orion. Corinna suggested he work with Mike Deluca, who has previously shown in interest in both topics.
8. Adjournment - 8:38pm
9. Next OTERC scheduled meeting: Oct 7, 2021