

Environmental Stewardship Committee  
MINUTES  
December 18, 2023  
7-8:30pm Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81468016140?pwd=dXBFRG5oU01Sa0RQZER1QzFaSEVtZz09>

1. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum Attending: Lesli Lee, Chair; Carolyn Greene, Secretary; Ed Biglin, Joel Butterworth, Marie Kay Hansen, Wendy Cassel, Karen Cotter, Pat Parson, Bruce Hartsough; Quorum met.
2. Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was adopted.
3. Approval of 11/20/23 Minutes: The minutes were adopted.
4. Project updates
  - a. **Oak Re-planting project** - Carolyn reported that enclosures are sturdy and volunteers will check on status of acorn sprouting soon. Watering needs will be determined after rainy season.
  - b. **"Party for the Planet" holiday waste reduction ON article** - Lesli reported that ON printed holiday waste reduction article Dec 10, in advance of Oakmont group parties. "Waste Not/Want Not" article was printed a second time in ON.
  - c. **Native Plants ON article** - Marie Kay - There was discussion about what constitutes an Oakmont-centric article. Marie Kay will re-write and re-submit, possibly sending to OESC for comment.
  - d. **Creek Inventory** - Joel and Pat reported on project; purpose to inventory creeks with flooding potential, especially 3 locations - Charlotte Creek under Fairfield, Anella Creek under Oakmont Dr. and Oakmont Creek upstream of Star of Valley. There are many jurisdictions involved, and investigation will continue.
  - e. **Adopt-a-Creek** - Pat and Wendy. We are using Joel's Photos at Stream Channel Sites doc, Pat's Adopt A Creek Pictorial Inventory doc, & the evaluation in the Stream Inventory Table doc to have team monitor Charlotte Creek at Fairfield, Oakmont at Wild Oak upstream & Anella Oakmont Dr. upstream through the winter/rainy season to determine flooding potential. Organizing a panel forum to include representatives from City of Santa Rosa, Sonoma Water, Sonoma Ecology Center,

Occidental Arts & Ecology Center & Joel Butterworth. Will confirm who is best to conduct a hands-on training for volunteers to create blackberry & possible cattail abatement of Charlotte Creek. Videos of both panel & training will be utilized for ongoing education of the Oakmont community on creek care. Christel lets us know that she is contacted when residents have complaints about the condition of creek/waterway. We are waiting for Christel's availability to have our 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to firm up next steps.

- f. **Home Electrification** – Karen, assisted by Ed, Wendy, and Lesli. Discussion focused on support for a workshop in Oakmont, showcasing Sonoma Clean Power's Advanced Energy Center programs and resources. A similar program was presented by the Futures Club (2022). There was discussion about the difference between town hall and workshop; programs might also be presented around Earth Day in late April. Ed suggested an educational document for new Oakmont residents who may be considering home energy renovations.
- g. **Waste management on OVA properties** – Project Lead Lesli met with Cole and maintenance manager Gil, resulting in 2 new indoor compost bins in Berger. Pending approval from Christel, additional compost and recycling bins and carts to be delivered to OVA facilities. Details still to be worked out regarding emptying, education, etc.
- 5. Summary of Board and Charter Actions - Lesli met 11/27 with Christel and Steve Spillman of the OVA BOD. OESC retailers/presenters need to focus on education and not promoting their products/service. For information and requests, Committee/Chair to contact Christel first. No committee charter amendments now.
- 6. Google Drive Structure and Organization and Communication – Joel - Renaming and moving of some files recommended by mid-January. Joel offered to assist with questions.
- 7. Review of 2023 - At next meeting, Lesli will provide a 2023 Summary of OESC accomplishments. Chair to also provide a quarterly update to the Board in January.

## NEW BUSINESS

- 8. Project Teams - who may be a part? Lesli offered idea that teams may include non-Oakmont residents if 1 voting members is the project lead or key team player. Bruce: Need to be clear and cautious about monetary compensation to bring someone onto a project.

9. Next meeting: January 15<sup>th</sup> is Martin Luther King Day holiday; originally scheduled for in-person in the morning; however, OVA offices are closed. Meeting will be on Zoom from 7-8:30pm.

Meeting Adjourned

Save the Date: Tektek, Mishewal Tribe Indigenous speaker – Sunday Jan 21st  
10:30am Sunday Symposium