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Quiet Orinda Not Blowing Away

Cathy Dausman

Orinda's recent City Council meeting was on the whole a lightly-attended, brief affair. By meeting's end the audience had dwindled to three. But earlier in the session eight Orinda residents spoke during public forum time to raise their voices in protest over leaf blower pollution. Although the Council voted unanimously last November against a ban on leaf-blowers, the citizen group Quiet Orinda is determined to keep the issue alive.

Quiet Orinda founders Susan and Peter Kendall, who have spoken out at previous council meetings, first raised the issue in a 2009 letter to our editor - since then, they've established a blog, founded a forum, invested personal funds and researched their cause. They've been featured in a multi-page article in New Yorker magazine, spoken on Sea Change Radio, inspired words from Canadian poet Wendy Morton and posted clips on the internet. This time at the council meeting each speaker's prepared remarks were captured on video. When asked whether the videographer was working with Quiet Orinda, Kendall replied only that "there really is a much bigger story." He plans to release details soon.

Reach the reporter at: cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com

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