

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – AUGUST 16, 2018**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM. Sunshine Rule was announced and the flag was saluted.

Members: Craig Buffington, Pat Butenis, Terri & Dave Chiddenton, Charlie Damiani, Dennis LaMagna, Ed Paul, Salvatore Russomanno, Art Shaw

Honorary Member: Al Campbell

Liaison: Mary Sura

Green Team: Richard Casian

Roll Call: P. Butenis, D. Chiddenton, T. Chiddenton, C. Damiani, D. LaMagna, E. Paul, S. Russomanno, A. Shaw, M. Sura

Excused: C. Buffington, A. Campbell

Absent: R. Casian

2. **Meeting open to the public:** None present.

3. **Reading and approval of minutes from the last meeting:** C. Damiani moved to approve the minutes and D. LaMagna seconded. Minutes were approved.

4. **Clean Communities:** T. Chiddenton said a group from Loudon has offered to do a clean up for us and asked for suggested roads for trash removal. Members suggested Ellwood Avenue, Raritan Avenue and the Old White Horse Pike, starting from the Senior Citizens Center. Also, the application for the 2018 Clean Communities Grant will be completed soon, which will cover 2017 expenditures.

5. **Report from Township Liaison:** Nothing to report.

6. **Report from Planning Board Liaison:** S. Russomanno reported that the last two board meetings were cancelled. He also explained that the Planning Board

said he could not pass to the WTEC site plans for its review since the WTEC is like the “public” and therefore could not see the plans until the Planning Board meeting. The rest of the WTEC members then discussed the fact that the WTEC is a branch of the municipal government and should not be considered the “public” and that the WTEC should be able to get the site plans when the Planning Board does.

7. Old Business:

- ARH Proposal Letter for NRI Update: ARH is delayed with the proposal, due to vacations and a retirement but are confident they’ll get it done. They have said they need some information from WTEC but have not specified what they require. While the timeline for the use of the grant is a year, we would gain 20 points from Sustainable Jersey if we completed the proposal by the last submission in November.

- Pinelands Orientation/Tri-County Alliance Meeting: Ed, Charlie, Terri and Dave attended the Pinelands Commission orientation which gave a very basic overview of their activities and mandate. All the information is on their website. Dave, Terri and Charlie also attended the Tri-County meeting in Cherry Hill and thought it was an excellent chance to compare notes with other environmental commissions. The next meeting is September 27.

- Site Plan Review Sub-committee: E. Paul, who is responsible for this SJ action, cited the actions the sub-committee must take to meet SJ’s requirements, noting that the sub-committee must do more than simply review site applications. The Chair said he would discuss the issue with the Mayor and Planning Board Chair Condo to determine a way forward.

- Plastic Bag Education/Tote Bags: P. Butenis, responsible for this SJ action, circulated a pledge committing WTEC members to begin using reusable bags, which everyone signed. With the pledge, the only item missing to complete the action is a photo of the Bring Your own Bag flyer being distributed to the public, which Pat said she would take at the next Saturday Farmers Market. We also decided to purchase reusable bags to give away at the Winter on the Avenue event and Pat agreed to research sources for reusable, washable bags made from recycled materials. We will use the Clean Communities grant to buy the bags.

8. **New Business:**

- **Atco Lake Lily Pad Removal:** Atco lake is next in line for lily pad removal after Newton Creek, Haddon Township. The county has hired Aqua Clear for the job. The Chair will confirm if the level of the lake will also be raised.
- **Fall Clean-up Date:** We agreed to hold the Fall Clean-up on September 22 but later in the week, T. Chiddenton reported that the Scouts had a conflict, so we will hold the Clean-up on October 20, no rain date. C. Damiani requested that a composting workshop be offered and mentioned in the flyer. We will buy more supplies, including more trash grabbers.
- **2018 Goals Update:** The Chair briefly reviewed our 2018 goals, per the document he had distributed, and noted that two-thirds of the goals are either in the process of being or have been completed.

9. **Sustainable Jersey Actions/Firewise Section II Completion:** The Chair thanked Linda Butenis-Vorsa for her work in submitting our Monarchs activities as an Innovative Project. C. Damiani is reviewing the grant application for Firewise which would be used to purchase DPW/Fire equipment.

10. **Comments from Membership:** T. Chiddenton reminded us that we were invited by Patrick McDevitt of Monroe Township's EC to attend one of their meetings. We decided October would be a good time to go, even though they hold their meetings on the same day as we do, but A. Shaw said he could represent us.

T. Chiddenton also reported that the WTEC has been invited to join Hammonton's Green Day, which will be on Sunday, September 23 (12:00-4:00PM). Our participation will help to fulfill the SJ requirements for the Green Fair action.

The Chair shared a July letter we were copied on from the Pinelands Commission reporting that the Pinelands Commission had revoked the permit for the annual Jeep Jamboree held in the Pinelands due to two violations committed during this summer's Jamboree. The N.J. State Park Police had issued two summonses for deviating from the approved route map. The Chair noted that the local Jeep Club

supports the Township's clean-ups and it would be regrettable if the cancellation of the Jamboree had an impact on their continued help.

11. Meeting open to the public: NA

13: Adjourn: Motion was made to adjourn by A. Shaw and seconded by C. Damiani.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM .

Next proposed meeting date: Thursday, September 20 at 7:30PM