

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – JULY 19, 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, E. Paul, A. Shaw

Excused: M. Sura, C. Buffington, A. Campbell, D. LaMagna

Absent: R. Casian

2. **Meeting open to the public:** Chris Waldron (Director, Sustainable Camden County), Patrick McDevitt (Monroe Township Environmental Commission), Sherry Wine (master composter), Rick Yeatman (Township Council)

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

4. **Presentation by Chris Waldron:** Chris described some of the programs his office runs to promote sustainability in Camden County: greenhouses growing plants for use in county parks; green infrastructure for rain gardens; a tool lending library; water efficiency and energy conservation for county facilities; and drafting ordinances for voluntary use by townships (currently looking at use of plastic bags and straws). Chris offered to advise us on our Sustainable Jersey actions and the Chair gave him a list of our SJ actions to date, and suggested meeting later to review it.

<http://www.camdencounty.com/service/sustainable-camden-county/>

5. Presentation by Patrick McDevitt: Patrick described some of Monroe Township's SJ actions that are of interest to Waterford: Energy audit: just conducting the audit can earn points, besides earning more by following up on the recommendations. Community garden: a school garden would qualify for Township SJ points; their school has a rain garden. Safe routes to school: even though all Waterford students bus to school. Patrick said we still might be able to earn points by looking at bike paths, etc. Patrick recommended participation in the Tri-County Sustainability Alliance. He also said that Atlantic City Electric customers could request a free energy efficiency audit that included a few no-cost adjustments made on the spot. (The Quick Home Energy Check-up Program). The Chair offered to send someone to one of Monroe's Environmental commission meetings to share our suggestions on SJ actions we have already completed and Patrick welcomed the idea.

6. Presentation by Sherry Wine: Sherry explained how to do composting correctly (ensuring enough moisture, regular mixing, keeping out any cooked foods, meat, and oil) and highlighted the ecological and gardening benefits of composting. She encouraged schools to start composing projects as a way to involve children in organic gardening and environmental activities at an early age.

7. Report from Planning Board Liaison: S. Russomanno reported that the Planning board passed resolution #2018-155 to pledge for sustainable land use.

8. Old Business:

- ARH Proposal Letter for NRI Update: ARH will come to the next Township Council meeting to discuss their proposal. They have already completed a lot of the work, such as mapping.
- Fishing Certificates presentation: the certificates were presented to the winners at the Township meeting on July 11, with proud parents in attendance.

9. New Business:

- **Plastic Bag Education:** P. Butenis outlined the steps needed to meet SJ's conditions for approval of the action, including developing a long term plan for purchase and distribution of reusable bags. T. Chiddenton offered to look into

purchasing bags which could have the WTEC logo. It was agreed that it was too late to hold a contest for school students to submit designs for the bags. We also need to take photos of our flyer being distributed and of the initiative being announced at a Township meeting.

10. **Sustainable Jersey Update:** The Chair encouraged members to complete their actions ASAP. He said he had more closely reviewed the applications of townships with a Silver rating and saw that we were closer to attaining Silver ourselves than we originally thought. He was optimistic.

11. **Meeting open to the public:** Rick Yeatman congratulated the WTEC for obtaining the \$10,000 ERI/NRI grant.

12. **Other Agenda Items:** The Chair said that since we were running late, due to the three presentations, we would discuss any remaining items at our August meeting.

13: **Adjourn:** Motion was made to adjourn by the Chair and seconded by E. Paul

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07PM .

Next proposed meeting date: Thursday, August 16 at 7:30PM