

Waterford Township Environmental Commission

March 20th, 2014

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:37 P.M. Sunshine Law was announced, flag was saluted.

Members Present: Rich Beswick, Dave and Terri Chiddenton, Sarah Harney, Sal Russomanno, Art Shaw, Eva Suriani Liaison: Rick Yeatman Absent: Julia Levoch-Day

2. Meeting Open to Public: none present

3. Minutes for Approval: A motion was made by R. Beswick and seconded by A. Shaw to approve the minutes from the February 20th meeting. Minutes were approved with one abstention from S. Russomanno, due to his absence.

4. Clean Communities Report: T. Chiddenton reported that the Loudon Volunteer Firehouse members plan to hold an Adopt-a-Road clean-up on March 30th. They have requested to borrow additional recycling buckets due to the substantial amount of recyclable trash on Jackson Rd. A sample of the Spring Clean-up flyer was approved by the commission members to be copied and distributed.

5. Report from Township Committee Liaison: R. Yeatman announced a preliminary approval of the WTEC budget in the amount of \$940. He also informed the commission of Camden County's plan to spray an herbicide within the waterline of Atco Lake as a means to control the abundant presence of water lilies. Lastly, the state has announced plans to locate and study storm water basins.

6. Report from Planning Board Member: D. Chiddenton explained that the new nine house development, Waterford Station, located at Raritan and Cooper Aves., has been approved. A construction company, APR Renovations, has applied for a use variance application at the site of the old "Small Miracles" rabbit rescue on Auburn Ave., which was approved, as well.

7. Old Business: A formal letter will be written by T. Chiddenton in regards to a stipend being attached to her duties as a Clean Communities Coordinator. Several commission members offered to accompany her to a township workshop meeting as a show of support. E. Suriani has re-established the WTEC facebook page, with the inclusion of L. Ruocco and S. Danson as account managers. Although E. Suriani will be in charge of maintaining the page, all new postings will be sent to L. Ruocco for approval. S. Harney will register Waterford with Sustainable Jersey. She will continue with our process of certification and the formation of the Green Team. The commission approved D. Chiddenton's recommendation of purchasing 3 -5 heavy duty stencils for storm drain labeling. Although the construction of bat house poles was

discussed, the idea of attaching the houses to existing trees was later recommended. Several members confirmed that they would attend the Atco Lake and Macro Training event on March 22nd. The commission also approved the purchase of WTEC business cards, to be used for identification and informational purposes. A motion was made by A. Shaw and seconded by R. Beswick to approve the completion of a \$1,500 Open Space Grant, which would then be submitted to the Township Committee.

8. New Business: The commission approved the presentation of Waterford T-shirts to Town Clean-up participants. We also discussed the need for more signage to direct residents to the date and location of the clean-up. We hope to utilize The Wire, the Loudon Firehouse and American Legion signs, and place a request with L. Ruocco/S. Danson to add the event to the T.V. scroll. R. Beswick gave a summary of an ANJEC workshop he attended on March 15th. He took a list of our commission's 2013 accomplishments, which he said were very well received. A booklet was made of pamphlets Rich gathered, which will be shared by each member. He emphasized the importance of attaining an ERI (Environmental Resource Inventory) for our township, and hopes to have an ERI presentation one day for the benefit of the Township Committee and ourselves. Lastly, Rich stated that all our members should attend future ANJEC workshops, and we should constantly be on the lookout for new recruits. T. Chiddenton contacted the Dept. of Forestry to gather more information about the N.J. Tree Recovery Program, which was first brought to her attention by E. Toussaint. She was informed that trees are available, but the date and location of delivery have not been established. She was assured that WTEC is on the "short list" once details have been finalized.

9. Comments from Membership: D. Chiddenton asked the membership to print a copy of their agenda and minutes for future meetings. Replies to e-mails requesting opinions and/or suggestions would be appreciated, as well. R. Yeatman offered to provide Fishing Tournament flyers during the April 26th clean-up.

10. Meeting Open to Public: None present

11. E. Suriani made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by S. Harney. Meeting was adjourned at 9:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by T. Chiddenton

Next Meeting: April 17th at 7:30 P.M.