

Waterford Township Environmental Commission

April 17, 2014 Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:38 P.M. Sunshine Law was announced, flag was saluted.

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

2. Meeting Open to Public: Charlie Damiani, who informed us that he was once on the Environmental Commission, and would agree to become an alternate. Also, Chris Waldron, the Camden County Director of Sustainability, who was extremely helpful in advising us for Sustainable Jersey certification, after which, we could apply for a \$2,000 grant.

3. Minutes for Approval: A motion was made by S. Russomanno and seconded by S. Harney to approve the minutes from the March 20th meeting. Minutes were approved with one abstention from J. Levoch-Day, due to her absence.

4. Clean Communities Report: T. Chiddenton reported that although the cycling club, Team Evesham, had not forwarded their paperwork to her, they are still interested in participating in the Adopt-a-Spot Program. The Sierra Club completed their 3rd clean-up of the year, and although the Loudon Volunteers attempted to hold a clean-up, the weather had not cooperated, and the clean-up was canceled.

5. Report from Township Committee Liaison: R. Yeatman reported that it had been determined that a landscaping business on a property between avenues A and B had encroached upon wetlands. They had built a barrier, which may have been responsible for the flooding of these two avenues. The township is also looking into 2 properties which are suspected of illegal housing. The area on Auburn Ave., which once housed "Small Miracles," was reportedly tested for chromium, as it was once the site of a chromium plating business. Finally, Meyers Auto Salvage has moved their overflow of scrap back onto their own property line. R. Yeatman suggested that some commission members investigate reports of oil pools in the salvage yard.

6. Report from Planning Board Member: D. Chiddenton stated that the board had recently received two applications. One resident had requested a use/variance in order to convert a garage into a lawn mower repair shop. His request was denied. Another resident also requested a use/variance to demolish an existing home at 427 W. Atco Ave. in order to build a modular home adapted to senior living conditions. This request passed.

7. Old Business: S. Harney verified that our commission is registered with Sustainable Jersey. Each member, along with R. Yeatman and D. LaMagna, will be listed as members of the Green Team. We discussed the possibility of scouts or students creating a Community Garden (under our direction), which would count towards certification points. Chris Waldron suggested that we should also investigate areas plagued by invasive plant species, which would fall under

"innovation credits," and that it would be wise to include the town logo on our paperwork. Three stencils have been purchased for the stormwater drains. D. Chiddenton would like the scouts to assist in stenciling the 127 drains which have been located on our 22 streets sometime in late June or July. R. Yeatman commented that a GPS reading should be taken of each drain during the stenciling project. WTEC business cards have arrived and have been distributed to each member. The members have decided to forego the state's Tree Recovery Program after learning that C. Waldron agreed to donate over 100 trees he had left over from his town's participation in the project. The Open Space Grant has been submitted to ANJEC, but a motion was made by J. Levoch-Day, and seconded by T. Chiddenton that the DVRPC Grant be dismissed at this time in hopes for an earlier submission date next year. C. Waldron agreed to send us additional grant opportunities in the future. T. Chiddenton mentioned that she was attending the Dave Street Environmental Assembly at Atco School on the 22nd. Lastly, all preparations had been made with Goodwill, Robinson Dumpsters, Clementon Gun Club, and in purchasing food supplies for the Town Clean-up on April 26th. All commission members but one plan to attend.

8. New Business: A letter will be written to the AmeriCorp Watershed Ambassador Program on behalf of Steve Luell for his participation in our Atco Lake/Macro Invertebrate Event, which we held in March. We have agreed to hold the Fishing Tournament on June 14th at Atco Lake. This date allows participants to fish without a license, as is true every Father's Day weekend. We must start contacting local businesses not only to promote the tournament, but also to collect donations for payment of trophies, prizes, and bait.

9. Comments from Membership: The commission has become aware of expenditures from the Clean Communities Grant which may not be entirely allowable. T. Chiddenton agreed to contact Sandy Huber to clarify appropriate allocations of the grant.

10. Meeting Open to Public: C. Damiani reiterated that after his absence of several years, he wishes to be reestablished in the Environmental Commission. The members will gladly vote upon his readmission, once his letter of intent has been submitted to the Town Committee.

11. T. Chiddenton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by S. Russomanno. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by T. Chiddenton

Next Meeting: May 15th at 7:30 P.M.