

Waterford Township Environmental Commission

December 18th, 2014 Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:50 P.M. Sunshine Law was announced, flag was saluted.

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

2. Meeting Open to Public: Chris Kerbaugh mentioned a concern he had over hearing a large pack of coyotes near his house. R. Yeatman suggested that we contact Rob Auermuller, the Superintendent of Wharton State Forest, then Chief Cormaney.

3. Minutes for Approval: A motion was made by R. Beswick and seconded by E. Suriani to approve the minutes from the Nov. 20th meeting. Minutes were approved, with abstentions from Julia Levoch-Day and Sarah Harney, due to their absences.

4. Clean Community Report: T. Chiddenton stated that the Waterford Twp. B.O.E. has approved a school Environmental Club, which plans to start a school garden at Waterford School in the spring. Both she and D. Chiddenton are gathering Clean Communities statistics for missing reports from 2010 - 2012, with hopes of submitting these reports shortly.

5. Report from Township Committee Liaison: R. Yeatman explained that he made an announcement of the WTEC's success in attaining Bronze Certification with Sustainable Jersey at the last Township meeting. He also explained that the truck, which he reported was in disrepair at last month's meeting, was fixed and running within 3 days' time.

6. Report from Planning Board Member: D. Chiddenton reported that, once again, the latest Planning Board meeting had been canceled. The Planning Board discussed hiring a professional development planner during 2015 in order to entice families and businesses to move into Waterford Twp.

7. Old Business: Since the weather for Winter on the Ave. was not cooperative, the WTEC table and materials were moved into the firehouse. A satisfactory amount of educational materials and hand-outs were distributed to the residents. Now that the design of the "Illegal Dumping" magnet has been approved, T. Chiddenton will contact Susan Danson for a printing company to produce the magnets. One goal for 2015 is to disperse these magnets and flyers to residents living near forest access trails in hopes of preventing dumping activity. Our DPW will also make 12X18 signs to be erected on these trails. R. Beswick mentioned that we should mount cameras, as well, which could possibly be bought with Clean Communities Grant money. To date, we have submitted all member letters of intent to remain on the WTEC, with the exception of S. Russomanno.

8. New Business: Our annual Electronics Recycling Event will be held on Saturday, Dec. 27th from 9:00 - 4:00. Along with most of our members attending, we also will have two DPW employees, who will assist us in loading the electronics into a township lift-gate truck. D. Chiddenton handed out a list of the WTEC's accomplished goals for the year. R. Yeatman suggested that this list should be presented to the Town

Committee members, S. Danson, posted on our facebook page, and posted on the town hall bulletin board. While brainstorming for new goals in 2015, S. Harney suggested we provide bat houses for our residents. J. Day would like to develop a "Horse Event," to be held near the Marilyn Beard Trailhead, which could include a scavenger hunt for riders and hikers. E. Suriani mentioned that a "Mud Run" would dovetail into a Sustainable Jersey action. D. Chiddenton reminded us that we need to continue documenting GPS locations of storm drains and retention basins. We may also wish to assist the township with a new resident packet. Lastly, we should consider possible topics for an ANJEC Grant.

9. Sustainable Jersey: We're certified! We received notification from Sustainable Jersey that Waterford Twp. has attained Bronze Level Certification. S. Harney has registered to view a S. J. grant-writing webinar, which is scheduled for January. We agreed that a Sustainable "action list" needs to be provided to each member as to which actions are completed and which actions are available for completion in order to attain the Silver Certification Level for 2015.

10. Comments from Membership: D. Chiddenton read a letter concerning the illegal expansion and gradual remediation of this expansion by Myers Junkyard on Chew Road. He also announced that Justin Day has officially earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Posters of prosecuted illegal dumpers were displayed, which will, in turn, be displayed at future WTEC events. We learned that recycle buckets have been ordered for Town Hall. S. Harney stated that a hiking/biking/horseback riding trail from Thomas Richards School to Waterford School may be possible, thus fulfilling a Sustainable Jersey action requirement.

11. Meeting Open to Public: Mr. Kerbaugh had nothing further to add.

12. D. Chiddenton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by R. Beswick. Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted by T. Chiddenton