

## Waterford Township Environmental Commission

### August 21, 2014 Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:30 P.M. Sunshine Law was announced, flag was saluted.

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

2. Meeting Open to Public: Michael Hogan (South Jersey Land & Water Trust), Rob Auermuller (Superintendent of Wharton State Forest), Jack Sworaski (Director of the Division of Environmental Affairs), Maggie McCann (Environmental Educator & Naturalist), Al Horner, Jaclyn Rhoades (both of the Pineland Preservation Alliance), Chris Waldron (Director of Sustainable Camden County), and former resident William Furterer. W. Furterer asked if the commission could investigate an indifferent landlord who evicted Mr. Furterer's friend after a complaint about a leaky pipe in the basement of the rental property, which caused an unhealthy mold situation. Mr. Furterer had a business in the same building, but had to move it to Berlin, due to the unsanitary conditions. R. Yeatman replied that he and Town Committee are aware of the problem, and that Mr. Furterer should leave his name and address so that he can be contacted.

3. Minutes for Approval: A motion was made by S. Harney and seconded by R. Beswick to approve the amended minutes from the July 17th meeting. Minutes were approved with abstentions from S. Rusomanno and E. Suriani, due to their absences.

4. Presentation by Michael Hogan: M. Hogan's first announcement was the clean-up of and hike around Atco Lake on Nov. 8th, starting at 10:00 A.M. He then explained that 115 illegal dump sites and ATV disturbances have been located within the Wharton State Forest. The catalyst for this meeting was a tire dump site off of Chew Rd. R. Auermuller instructed us to call 1-877-WARNDEP for any and all dumping. This number connects to the State Park Police, who then, in turn, can notify local police. He requested that sizable dumpsites not be disturbed so that the police can investigate, and hopefully, apprehend the offenders. We all agreed that the public needs to be educated as to how potential dumping and ATV disturbance should be reported. Suggestions included flyer mail-outs in our property tax packets, posting a sign outside of or on the municipal building with instructions and the WARNDEP phone number, and reinstating the "Welcome Wagon" program, which would incorporate this information. J. Rhoades recommended that warning signs should be posted at the head of forest entrance roads, which also include the phone number, maps which indicate disturbed areas should be made available to the residents, and PSE&G should be contacted to set up blockades along their pole lines. D. Chiddenton added that residents that live close to the heads of these 30+ forest entrance roads should be given this information periodically and encouraged to report suspicious activity. E. Suriani mentioned that these facts may be more readily accessible (and less likely to be thrown away) if they were placed on magnets. R. Auermuller requested that we have a county-wide clean-up of the Wharton, which would include town residents and participants from the Land & Water Trust. A possible date for this clean-up could be in late March. Lastly, M. Hogan suggested that Winslow should be included in a future combined meeting.

5. Clean Community Report: T. Chiddenton reported that she has requested and is receiving free and inexpensive handouts for residents that attend the Waterford Twp. Day in September. E. Suriani ex-

pressed the possibility of presenting children who receive a book (and who write a brief summary of the book) an award at the town library. This idea will be discussed at a future meeting.

6. Report from Township Committee Liaison: R. Yeatman announced that members from the Town Committee will be participating in the "Ice Dump Challenge for ALS" at the Aug. 27th town meeting. Also, the Water and Sewer Committee has uncovered erroneous expenditures from past town administrations, and lack the funds to clean and make repairs to the entire infrastructure. He will update us on any resolutions in the future.

7. Report from Planning Board Member: D. Chiddenton reported that 2 applications for large pole barns were submitted for the Aug. 2nd meeting. Another application for a shed was submitted for the Aug. 19th meeting. The township solicitor has requested that a time limit be placed on surveys in submission, as they are frequently too old to be relevant.

8. Old Business: D. Chiddenton will meet with Eagle Scout candidate Justin Day, his father, scout leaders and scouts on Saturday to assist in erecting 21 poles (which will later support 21 bat houses) within 9 retention pond basins. Over \$16,000 in Clean Communities monies were spent in 2014 by the township, but with the inclusion of new grant money, there is presently \$25,000+. Our personal account holds roughly \$100, as money was used for ANJEC fees and for handouts during the Fishing Derby, Waterford Twp. Day and Winter on the Ave. Once the Township Committee approves our storm drain stenciling project, various members, residents, and perhaps scouts will begin stenciling the 84 drains which were cleaned this year. R. Yeatman and S. Russomanno suggested that they also be labeled and recorded for future reference (i.e. if Maple Ave has 4 drains, they could be labeled M-1, M-2, M-3, and M-4). D. Chiddenton mentioned that S. Danson is looking into a shared service agreement with Winslow for a catch basin cleaner. S. Harney thought that C. Waldron would be a good source for assistance. We have finally received confirmation from Goodwill that we collected almost 3,000 pounds of electronics during our April Town Clean-up.

9. Sustainable Jersey: S. Harney, E. Suriani, and D. Chiddenton reported that they were near the completion of their Sustainable Jersey "actions." S. Harney suggested that all members pick additional "actions" which would require less investigation, thus making their submission quicker and easier. We agreed that we should plan on meeting before our usual date in order to assist members who are having difficulties with their tasks. The tentative date for an ERI presentation by DeVal to the Town Committee will be September 24th.

10. Comments from Membership: None at this time.

11. Meeting Open to Public: No additional comments were made.

12. A. Shaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by D. Chiddenton. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by T. Chiddenton

**Next Proposed Meeting Date: Thursday, September 11th at 7:30 P.M.**

