

## Waterford Township Environmental Commission

### September 17th, 2015 Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:28 P.M. Sunshine Law was announced, flag was saluted.

Members Present: Rich Beswick, Terri Chiddenton, Charlie Damiani, Julia Levoch-Day, Sal Russomanno, Art Shaw                      Liaison: Dave Chiddenton                      Excused: Craig Buffington

2. Meeting Open to Public: Eagle Scout Dan McGinnis returned with an update on his bat house project. He plans to build 8 – 10 large bat houses, each containing 3 chambers, in order to attract bat colonies. He built an example to show us, and passed around a packet of pictures and blueprint instructions. Dan plans to hold hoagie sales for revenue, and will ask Atco Hardware and Home Depot for free building materials. R. Yeatman was also in attendance, and added to ongoing conversations.

3. Minutes for Approval: A motion was made by C. Damiani and seconded by S. Russomanno to approve the minutes from the August 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Minutes were approved, with two abstentions from Julia Levoch-Day and A. Shaw, due to their absences.

4. Clean Community Report: T. Chiddenton reported that the WTEC received the ANJEC Environmental Achievement Award, and that there would be a ceremony on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> at the Raritan Valley Community College. She also stated that she provided ANJEC with a progress report concerning the Open Space Grant. R. Beswick suggested to the War Memorial Committee that an expansion to their Adopt-a-Road location is recommended, perhaps by adding sections of Pestleton Ave. and/or Chew Rd. to their present Condo Ave. location.

5. Report from Township Committee Liaison: D. Chiddenton continued on the theme of the Open Space Grant (which is based on our “Illegal Dumping” campaign), by announcing that 8 targeted locations have had the “Illegal Dumping” signs posted. He then summarized the accomplishments of the Clean Communities’ sponsored summer temp. workers. They had cleaned 31 storm drains by removing 95 pounds of debris. They had also collected 409 bags of trash, for a total of 1.53 tons of waste. These workers logged in over 851 hours, with 280 hours dedicated solely to the June storm clean up. Finally, Dave explained that the Township Committee will take a neutral stance on the Wharton State MAP program.

6. Report from Planning Board Member: R. Beswick reported that the Planning Board had canceled their meetings due to a lack of applicants.

7. Old Business: R. Beswick and C. Damiani volunteered to attend Waterford Day, along with R. Yeatman and T. & D. Chiddenton on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. T. Chiddenton explained that ANJEC would provide

us with a “water conservation spin game,” after which the participant with the most correct answers would win a rain barrel. Two sets of musicians were also being sent by ANJEC. J. Levoch-Day volunteered to help construct the “Environmental Ed” scarecrow for Atco Ave. Lastly, the Clementon Gun Club confirmed that the WTEC is permitted to use their facility for the Fall Town Clean-up on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, with the rain date being Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. T. Chiddenton will contact Hammonton to inquire if the middle or high school has a “Community Hours” program, wherein Waterford students would earn credit for participating in the clean-up.

8. New Business: T. Chiddenton asked for a rough idea of who might attend Winter on the Ave. on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, since she will be unable to do so. J. Levoch-Day, C. Damiani, R. Yeatman, and D. Chiddenton stated that they intend to be present. She also explained that there would be no Electronics Clean-up this year, as Goodwill is unwilling to send a trailer for a one day event. Happily, the commission may not need to search for two alternates, as J. Levoch-Day and C. Buffington know two individuals who are interested in joining.

9. Sustainable Jersey Update: T. Chiddenton mentioned that no new actions may be submitted to Sustainable Jersey until they finish reviewing actions which were recently submitted.

10. Comments from Membership: Several members questioned the latest action taken by The Atco Raceway. The members wanted to know how they gained permission to remove such a large quantity of trees, and why they are allowed to remain open hours after local ordinances prohibit noise. Both D. Chiddenton and R. Yeatman explained that the DEP gave the racetrack permission to remove trees on their own property if they were replaced with blueberry bushes. Both committeemen would look into the noise ordinance.

11. Meeting Open to Public: R. Yeatman suggested that the annual Fishing Tournament could occasionally be moved from Atco Lake to the Archway Lake in order to determine the cleanliness of that body of water, as well. T. Chiddenton will look into the feasibility of the move.

12. R. Beswick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by A. Shaw. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

**Next Meeting: October 15th at 7:30 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted by T. Chiddenton

