

## Waterford Township Environmental Commission

### December 17th, 2015 Minutes

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

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

2. Meeting Open to Public: Ed Paul was in attendance, and Rick Yeatman arrived at 7:40 P.M. E. Paul commented on the success and general feeling of good will during the Winter on the Ave. event.

3. Minutes for Approval: A motion was made by C. Damiani and seconded by T. Chiddenton to approve the minutes from the November 19th meeting. Minutes were approved by the members who attended that meeting.

4. Clean Community Report: T. Chiddenton reported that she and D. Chiddenton presented the Presbyterian Youth Group with the N.J. Transit Award at their church on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. The group received the award as a result of being the first non-profit organization in N.J. to adopt a train station for the Clean Communities "Adopt a Spot" program. Also, the American Legion participated in a Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> clean-up of Atlantic Ave. Lastly, T. Chiddenton proudly thanked C. Damiani, S. Russomanno, and D. Chiddenton for being the only volunteers from a township organization to assist E. Toussaint on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> during a vacant houses identification project throughout our town. She praised the WTEC members for their outstanding dedication and accomplishments.

5. Report from Township Committee Liaison: D. Chiddenton commented that he had announced the Atco Train Station Award during a twp. televised meeting, and reiterated that the WTEC is a tremendously important and successful commission. He suggested that the twp. committee choose members wisely, as an outstanding commission is only possible with outstanding commission members. He then announced that he submitted the latest Clean Communities Report to the state for review.

6. Report from Planning Board Member: Although R. Beswick could not attend the latest Planning Board meeting, J. Becker, who is a Planning Board alternate, was able to report that there is talk of developing Haines Blvd. as a commercial business site, and the land near the Atco Train Station may house high end condominiums. R. Yeatman added that these ideas are being submitted to the town planner, and that the requirements for sewer and water may need to be increased. Ultimately, plans for new housing will most likely precede commercial plans, as increased residency will attract new businesses.

7. Old Business: T. Chiddenton thanked R. Yeatman, E. Paul, D. Chiddenton, and C. Buffington (in his absence) for attending and presiding at the WTEC tent during Winter on the Ave. She also referred to a previous discussion in which WTEC members were planning to speak to the owner of the Atco Racetrack in regards to the 17 acres of land which was recently deforested. After speaking with the Town Administrator and Mayor, T. Chiddenton explained that the racetrack owner was agreeable to certain solutions, such as the planting of arborvitae and building a new sound wall to compliment an existing wall. She was advised that the commission wait until the spring to see if the owner keeps his word on these promises, after which, we would then follow up on a meeting.

8. New Business: T. Chiddenton reminded several members that their term will expire at the end of this year, and that they should send a letter of intent to the Township Committee and to herself. The members should also bring a suggestion or two for 2016 goals to the next meeting. Two goals which have already been proposed are the purchasing of some new trash receptacles for Atco Ave. and a 2017 Township Calendar. Lastly, she asked for member support in the writing of a new ANJEC Grant for "Storm Water Drain Maintenance, Labeling and GPS Tracking."

9. Comments from Membership: J. Becker commented on the amount of trash on his street, and that only he collects it from time to time. The members commiserated, and added their tales of litter woe. We hope that many of the parents who took a WTEC trash grabber during Winter on the Ave. will stand by their pledge that they and their children will monitor the trash near their homes. T. Chiddenton mentioned that the Township Committee approved Eagle Scout candidate Dan McGinnis' bat house project for placements at retention ponds and possible other areas throughout the town.

10. Meeting Open to Public: Nothing further was added to the night's discussions.

11. S. Russomanno made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Julia Levoch-Day. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

**Next Meeting: January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted by T. Chiddenton