

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – DECEMBER 19, 2019

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Sunshine Rule was announced and the flag was saluted.

Members: Pat Butenis, Dave Chiddenton, Terri Chiddenton, Charlie Damiani, Bob Doney, Tom Giangliulio, Dennis LaMagna, Ed Paul, Art Shaw

Honorary Member: Al Campbell

Liaison: Mary Sura

Green Team: Craig Buffington, Richard Casian,

Roll Call: R. Casian, D. Chiddenton, T. Chiddenton, B. Doney, T. Giangliulio, D. La Magna, E. Paul

Excused: C. Buffington, P. Butenis, A. Campbell, C. Damiani, A. Shaw, M. Sura

2. **Meeting open to the public:** none present

3. **Reading and approval of minutes from the last meeting:** T. Giangliulio moved to approve the minutes and E. Paul seconded. Minutes were approved.

4. **Clean Communities:** T. Chiddenton announced that the Girl Scout 5 Star Service Unit made a final clean-up of the G.S. Garden Corner, at Raritan and Atco Aves. in time for the Winter on the Ave. event. D. Chiddenton questioned if all Adopt-a-Road organizations are up to date in their payments for the year, after which Terri assured him that they are. T. Giangliulio asked where he could deposit a large amount of plastic bags, which the Girl Scouts will crochet into mats for the homeless. Terri reminded everyone that there is a box for that purpose in the municipal building.

5. **Report from Township Liaison:** no report given

6. **Report from Planning Board Liaison:** E. Paul reported that the Planning Board could not hold a meeting because they did not have a quorum present. Canceled meetings are beginning to create a problem, as a backlog of pending resolutions and payments to

professionals is steadily growing. Ed also mentioned that no new applications have been brought to the Board.

7. Old Business:

- Winter on the Ave.: The Chair commented on the success of the event and the number of residents that attended the WTEC's table. Dave noted that the Environmental Wheel Game and corresponding handouts were very popular, and thanked the members that assisted him that evening (P. Butenis, T. Chiddenton, C. Damiani, & E. Paul).

- Sustainable Jersey Plaque Presentation: Again, D. Chiddenton thanked the commission members who attended the Twp. Committee televised meeting. Dave took the opportunity to present the Sustainable Jersey plaque, which now holds our second Silver Certification plate, to Mayor Richardson. He then praised several committee members, the Twp. Clerk, the police, and other municipal staff for their assistance in various environmental endeavors throughout the year. The presentation concluded with a standing ovation from the dais.

- NIXLE/OEM: NIXLE was slated for discussion at the December OEM meeting, which was postponed until January. It will once again be placed on the OEM Agenda.

- New Maps: P. Butenis has acquired 30 brochures which accurately depict the "Maple Island/Wharton Trails." It was noted that the map box at the trailhead is leaking, so R. Casian, who built the box, offered to repair the box. He also suggested that the accurate map be placed on the WTEC facebook page, so that it could be accessed whenever the box is empty.

- TriCSA: D. Chiddenton reported that the Tri-County committee he is now on ("Towns Helping Towns") was mentioned in Sustainable Jersey' December newsletter. The next TriCSA meeting, which is open to all, will be on January 30th.

8. New Business:

- WTEC Accomplishments: The Chair gave a brief summary of the 2019 activities, awards, and achievements accomplished by various members of the Environmental Commission. He stated that he would send a formal version in a future email, and reaffirmed his acknowledgement of the excellence of this group of volunteers.

9. **Sustainable Jersey Action Update:** D. Chiddenton announced the fact that the commission only needs to earn 25 points more in order to receive their 4th Bronze plate from Sustainable Jersey. He suggested that a motion be made to secure those points, as further delay would cause a loss of over 200 points. B. Doney made the motion to pursue the Bronze Certification, with T. Giangiulio seconding the motion. This motion passed unanimously.

10: **Pinelands Commission letters:** No letters have been received. T. Chiddenton explained some background on the matter, saying that the Pinelands Commission is awaiting affirmation from the state for 4 new members, and cannot conduct “business as usual” until all positions are filled. This delay is causing a backup of correspondences from Pinelands.

11. **Comments from Membership:** T. Chiddenton mentioned an ANJEC article that focused on the plastic ban. The article relayed that a “Ban Bill” is being presented to the state legislature, and needs to be pushed through before the Jan. 14th recess. D. LaMagna was complimented on his pursual of the Lombardo Property report, where after a long discussion ensued. The members agreed that the WTEC should have been notified of the environmental issues at the property, and would make a formal recommendation that we should be copied on issues such as this in the future. Keeping track of contaminated sites within twp. boundaries is a key function of the Environmental Commission. B. Doney wondered if the Twp. Committee has full knowledge of the work the WTEC completes. D. Chiddenton explained that is the purpose of the Annual Report, which is presented to Twp. Committee at the end of each year.

12: **Meeting Open to the Public:** N/A

13: **Adjourn:** Motion was made to adjourn by T. Giangiulio and seconded by B. Doney. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Next proposed meeting date: Thursday, January 16th at 7:00PM