

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – JUNE 20, 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: Richard Casian, Craig Buffington

Roll Call: P. Butenis, R. Casian, D. Chiddenton, T. Chiddenton, C. Damiani, T. Giangliulio, D. La Magna, E. Paul

Excused: C. Buffington, A. Campbell, B. Doney, A. Shaw

Absent: M. Sura

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

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

4. **Clean Communities:** T. Chiddenton reported that the Sierra Club did a clean up but would not count it as an action, due to the small amount collected. Loudon Fire Company collected 14 bags of trash and the Boy Scouts seven bags.

5. **Report from Township Liaison:** The Chair had attended the Township meeting where he reported on the very successful Fishing Tournament and thanked all our supporters and contributing merchants.

6. Report from Planning Board Liaison: T. Giangiulio has submitted his resignation as Planning Board Liaison and we are waiting for the Township Council to proceed so the WTEC can name a new representative, as is required.

7. Old Business:

- Shredding Event: The Chair said we shredded 6935 pounds of paper (from 164 participating cars) which was added to the Township's monthly tonnage report. All in all it was a highly successful event, although we discussed ways to streamline the process. We also noted the need to better publicize and enforce the ban on items that cannot be shredded, such as paper clips, wet paper, and plastic bags.

- Fishing Tournament: There were 70 participants. The Chair attended a televised Township Committee meeting and took the opportunity to thank the tournament's sponsors. We raised \$800 in donations, in addition to donated prizes, and this more than covered this year's costs and left a surplus towards next year's event. The Chair passed out the individual certificates of appreciation to WTEC members to give to the merchants and donors they had recruited.

8. New Business:

- Pit/Convenience Center: The Chair reported that the Pit is now completely off limits for residential disposal; only DPW vehicles can unload material there. There is no place to dispose of grass clippings so we will promote the "cut it and leave it" practice for residents. We also reviewed the options available to residents for disposal of bulk items, including the Convenience Center which residents may visit free six times a year with a permit card from the Town Clerk. We noted that despite the availability of these options some residents continue to inappropriately put their bulk trash on the curb on regular trash pickup days.

- Recycling Update: The draft flyer on the new recycling rules is under review by the Township Committee. It is based on the county's flyer with some tweaking by Republic. It will be printed on adhesive-backed stickers which will be placed on residents' recycling bins by WTEC, DPW and Clean Communities Summer Help. The Chair reported that our last load of recyclables had a 30% contamination rate. Republic charges \$85.00 per recyclable load and then an additional \$150.00 per contaminated load, to cover the cost of sorting and hauling the contaminated

portion to the incinerator. We will ask Republic to periodically tell us our contamination rate so we can track our progress in lowering it. We had a lengthy discussion of the likely public reaction to the recycling guidelines changes and steps we might take to encourage compliance and to encourage recycling in general. Two major efforts could be to continue promoting reusable bags for shopping in place of plastic bags and to begin encouraging people to use and refill their own water bottles, to cut down on the use of single-use plastic water bottles.

9. Sustainable Jersey Action Update: The Chair reviewed our completed actions and those still pending approval by SJ. We remain optimistic about achieving our second Silver rating.

10: Pinelands Commission letters: None received.

11. Camden County Stormwater panel: P. Butenis reported on the Stormwater panel she attended on June 11. It was hosted by Flood Defense New Jersey and the panelists were Dr. Chris Obruption of Rutgers County Extension Service, Gary Brune of New Jersey Future and Jennifer Coffey of ANJEC. Basic points: most of NJ's development took place before stormwater management requirements were enacted and that is what the stormwater utility program is meant to address. Townships were encouraged not to wait for any utility fees but to start now with rainwater management measures, like rain gardens, permeable asphalt, etc. Dr. Obruption had already met with Winslow officials to help them plan for mitigating measures. The townships are now waiting for the Department of Environmental Protection to issue guidelines about implementing the recently passed stormwater utility bill. T. Giangiulio explained that an important step for the Township to take would be to clean out the storm drains with jet trucks but noted that this is an expensive operation and the Township has never set aside funding for it.

12. Sustainable Jersey Summit Comments: WTEC members D. & T. Chiddenton and C. Damiani attended the Summit at which Mayor Richardson spoke, on the mayors' panel. The Mayor's remarks were well received.

13. Comments from Membership: the Chair described a letter from DEP dated June 13 about an incident on the White Horse Pike in which 275 gallons of heating oil spilled while being pumped into a tank. DEP stated that the oil and contaminated sand had been removed.

T. Chiddenton attended Monroe's Environmental Commission meeting. The EC was started six months ago and is still recruiting members. Terri offered advice from our own experience. Monroe has elected a member to the Pinelands Municipal Council, and organization in which Waterford once participated. We agreed to elect a representative.

14: **Meeting Open to the Public:** NA

15: **Adjourn:** Motion was made to adjourn by T. Giangiulio and seconded by C. Damiani.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM.

Next proposed meeting date: Thursday, July 18 at 7:00PM