

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – JANUARY 30, 2020**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:39 PM. Sunshine Rule was announced and the flag was saluted.

Members: Pat Butenis, Bob Doney, Dennis LaMagna, Ed Paul, Art Shaw

Honorary Member: Al Campbell

Liaison: Rick Yeatman

Green Team: Craig Buffington, Richard Casian,

Roll Call: P. Butenis, B. Doney, D. La Magna, E. Paul, R. Yeatman

Excused: C. Buffington, A. Shaw

2. **Meeting open to the public:** Tom Giangliulio

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

4. **Status of WTEC:** R. Yeatman introduced a new WTEC member, Gabrielle DeSorte. There were three remaining vacancies with possible candidates for those positions. R. Doney was nominated as Chair and approved unanimously.

5. **Status of banning single use plastics in New Jersey:** T. Giangliulio reported on the NJ State Senate Environment and Energy Committee hearing he attended on Senate bill S864 on January 30 which prohibits provision or sale of single-use plastic carryout bags, single-use paper carryout bags, and polystyrene foam food service products; limits provision of single use plastic straws; and appropriates moneys from the Clean Communities Program Fund for public education. About 30 organizations testified in favor of the bill which

was reported out with amendments. We then discussed the measures the WTEC has taken to reduce use of single-use plastics, principally giving away reusable shopping bags and the tee shirt contest in the school, with environmental slogans on them. (This reminded us to check our supply of reusable bags, water bottles and other give-ways, most of which have been depleted). P. Butenis mentioned that several towns have passed their own resolutions against single-use plastics. E. Paul pointed out the disincentive such a ban might have on businesses considering locating in our township. G. De Sorte suggested working with the schools and agreed to start with a survey of what plastic products are currently in use at the schools. We agreed to further discussion of this topic at our next meeting, focusing on specific approaches and additional actions we could take.

6. Clean Communities: P. Butenis reported that T. Chiddenton said there was nothing to report. R. Yeatman asked the status of the Clean Communities account and P. Butenis said she would check with the former secretary T. Chiddenton, who remains the Clean Communities representative.

7. Report from Township Liaison: R. Yeatman said he had updated the Council on his discussions with Freeholder Jeffrey Nash on upgrading Atco Lake, including dredging and removal of vegetation on the White Horse Pike side, installation of a boat landing, and possibly some walking trails and a parking area.

8. Report from Planning Board Liaison: E. Paul reported that there was only one application pending. He also asked the Commission to consider reestablishing a Planning sub-committee, to evaluate the applications submitted to the Planning board. He said additional help would be useful and R. Doney volunteered to assist him as needed.

9. Old Business:

- **New Maps:** P. Butenis said she would confirm with R. Casian that the Burnt Mill kiosk had been waterproofed and determine who would keep the kiosk stocked with the maps.

10. **New Business:**

- Spring Clean-up: R. Doney will confirm with T. Chiddenton that she ordered tree seedlings for distribution at Spring Clean-up, which we had agreed would be on Saturday, March 28. P. Butenis confirmed she would pick up the seedlings on Friday, March 27. We also need to see if the Gun Club has already been reserved for our use on March 28.

11. **Sustainable Jersey Action Update:** Nothing to report.

12: **Pinelands Commission letters:** As far as we knew, no letters have been received, although it was not clear if the WTEC received its own cc copy of Pinelands Commission letters or was forwarded a copy by the Township Council. P. Butenis confirmed that the Pinelands Commission had still not been able to fill its vacancies due to inaction in the senate and that very little business was being conducted.

13. **Comments from Membership:** R. Yeatman asked about the Fishing Derby and we confirmed that it would be on Saturday, June 6, the same day that Mike Hogan (South Jersey Land & Water Trust) will conduct a clean-up of the Atco Lake area. E. Paul showed a magnet version of the county's recycling flyer and thought it would be useful for our residents. P. Butenis offered to contact the county about getting a supply. If that were not possible, maybe we could get an ANJEC grant to buy some. R. Yeatman said that there were a few streets that had not received the recycling stickers, including Old Town (behind Loudon fire hall). D. LaMagna asked if we could change the day of the WTEC meeting to Wednesday, since Thursdays consistently conflicted with other commitments he had. After some discussion of what a change in day would require (like a public notice), we agreed that the next meeting would be on Thursday, February 20 at 7:00PM but we would continue to consider changing the day. R. Doney said he would speak with Dave Chiddenton about getting the keys to the WTEC trailer, take inventory of our giveaways and recycling stickers and work out a plan to label the recycling bins on the streets reported by R. Yeatman.

14: **Meeting Open to the Public:** Nothing

15: **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:44.

Next proposed meeting date: Thursday, February 20 at 7:00PM