

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – OCTOBER 17, 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 Giangliulo, 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, B. Doney, D. La Magna, E. Paul, A. Shaw, M. Sura

Excused: C. Buffington, T. Giangliulo, A. Campbell

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

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

4. **Clean Communities:** Nothing to report on cleanups

5. **Report from Township Liaison:** M. Sura said there was nothing of environmental interest to report from the last Township meeting, other than a mention of the successful Fall Clean-Up.

6. **Report from Planning Board Liaison:** E. Paul reported that the last Planning Board meeting reviewed the purchase of the old firehouse by Brotherton Brewery and their plans for remodeling. They will retain the façade of the firehouse, although they will have to remove an old tree already damaged but will replace it. There followed a discussion of the possibility that three breweries in the area (two in Atco and one in Berlin) might attract people on a beer-tasting circuit, who might

otherwise not make a trip for just one or two breweries. A restaurant in the same block would be a welcome addition and encourage brewery visitors to stay for a meal, thereby increasing the economic activity on Atco Avenue. At the next meeting an application for a house will be reviewed, with the owner requesting approval for more impervious surface than is permitted.

7. Old Business:

- ANJEC Congress: The Chair and T. Chiddenton attended the Congress at which Waterford received one of five awards selected from other state applicants, ours for the recycling sticker/outreach campaign. Since then, WTEC has been asked by several other townships for information or briefings about our successful campaign.

- Fire prevention night: There was a good turnout and our emerald green reusable water bottle was the favorite prize with our spinning wheel winners.

- Fall Clean-Up: Ninety-plus people showed up to participate and they filled a 25 yard container with trash. R. Casian was congratulated for contacting the NJ State Park Police when he found a dumping site full of windows. The police found a permit sticker on one of the windows identifying the contractor, who was already unfavorably known to the police for illegal dumping. We discussed appearing at the accused's judicial hearing (if in Waterford) and petitioning the judge to impose community service (a day of picking up trash in Waterford) as well as a fine, since contractors may find it cheaper to pay the occasional fine rather than complying with township regulations about disposing of construction material. The cost of the hoagies provided to clean up volunteers was greater than in the past so we will look into ordering hoagies from the Knights of Columbus next year.

- EMS Fall Festival: There wasn't much of a turnout but the WTEC table was popular.

8. New Business:

- Winter on the Avenue: The date is Saturday, December 7. We do not yet know where our spot will be. Set up starts at 4PM.

- NIXLE: The Chair has continued his discussions with the Chief of Police, who is very selective in the subject matter of posts. There was discussion about how some townships using NIXLE send messages for all community events, trash pick-up dates, and other non-emergency situations. Waterford could limit NIXLE notifications to emergencies, road closures, etc. The Chair will continue to review the issue with appropriate authorities.

- Soil dumping/contamination: The Chair informed that the Department of Environmental Protection is asking each township to adopt an ordinance requiring permits for the testing of fill dirt before it can be sold, to ensure that the soil is not contaminated. There is no requirement yet to implement this measure. Franklin township just passed such an ordinance and we have asked for a copy for review.

- Folsom Environmental Commission (Greg Conway): The Chair left voice mail inviting Folsom EC member Greg Conway to one of our meetings.

9. Sustainable Jersey Action Update: The Chair reported that we have not received any information or feedback from SJ on our application.

10: Pinelands Commission letters: None received.

11. Comments from Membership: The Chair again thanked R. Casian for his work on the window dumping site. R. Casian updated us on his on-going work to improve the Marilyn Beard trail at Burnt Mill Road. He found a better, accurate map of the trail published by DEP. A. Shaw suggested the WTEC consider sending a letter to in-coming businesses explaining our recycling and waste disposal regulations. T. Chiddenton reported that at an ANJEC Congress workshop it was announced that the Stormwater Utiliies mechanism (also referred to as the “rain tax”) is now required for municipalities. She also reported that so far 88 towns have banned plastic bags.

12: Meeting Open to the Public: NA

13: Adjourn: Motion was made to adjourn by C. Damiani and seconded by E. Paul.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16PM.

Next proposed meeting date: Thursday, November 21 at 7:00PM