

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)**  
**MINUTES – JUNE 17, 2021**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM. This meeting was held in the Senior Center, with several members participating virtually via zoom. The Sunshine Rule was announced and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

**Members:** Kelly Andrews, Pat Butenis, Terry Ciarlante, Gabrielle DeSorte, Ed Paul, Harleigh Pino, Art Shaw, Mike Ward

Liaison: Rick Yeatman

Green Team: Craig Buffington, Richard Casian,

Roll Call: K. Andrews, C. Buffington, P. Butenis, R. Casian, T. Ciarlante, G. DeSorte, E. Paul, R. Yeatman

Excused: A. Shaw, M. Ward

Absent: H. Pino

2. **Reading and approval of minutes from the last meeting:** T. Ciarlante moved to approve the minutes, K. Andrews seconded. Minutes were approved.

3. **Open to the public:** Bob Doney attended.

4. **Chair's report:** The Chair thanked everyone for their support for the **fishing derby**, including B. Doney. He will send a thank-you letter and certificates to the merchants who donated prizes, in recognition of their generous contributions. Turnout out was relatively modest (35 people), perhaps because of competing events. Next year we will promote the derby earlier and more widely. The Department of Environmental Protection sent a letter regarding the **possible contamination** of the site at 396 White Horse Pike (location of One Stop Shoppe), which is undergoing testing now.

5. **Clean Communities:** T. Ciarlante reported that our Clean Communities **balance** of funds was \$23, 064.92. She also said the WTEC and Clean Communities web pages had acquired new followers.

6. **Township Liaison:** R. Yeatman said the **fishing derby** was a success and thanked everyone who participated. The Township Council passed the resolution we submitted objecting to the **forest management bills** still pending in the state legislature. Despite the uncertainty as to whether any Township lands would be involved, it was thought prudent to oppose the measures. A letter consolidating all our suggestions for improvements to **Atco Lake** will go out shortly to Commissioner Nash. Also, the process to make the Friends of Atco Lake a non-profit organization has started but will take time.

7. **Land Use Board Liaison:** The Chair provided an update from the Pinelands Commission on their most recent actions on the **Atco Dragway** change of use application. The Commission issued a letter on May 11 indicating that proposed stormwater management plan revisions would conceptually address the inconsistency identified in the Commission's certificate of filing. On May 12, the Land Use Board asked if changing the proposed paved parking/storage area(s) to a stone surface would be consistent with the Pinelands water quality standard. The Commission will review the expert testimony and reports submitted if the Township approves the proposed development.

8. **Trails Ambassador:** R. Casian reported the stockpiles of **gravel** remain in place. A lot fewer people are visiting the trails, likely due to the **flies** that are in abundance.

9. **New Business:** P. Butenis suggested we advertise the August 7 SJ Land and Water Trust **clean-up of Atco Lake** extensively, contacting organizations that participate in clean ups so they can earn Clean Communities money. T. Ciarlante will give her a contact list. K. Andrews will design a flyer and R. Yeatman will announce the cleanup at a Township meeting. If there is not a lot of litter at the lake perhaps some volunteers could trim back vegetation along the trails or clean up farther back from the Lake, where clean-up efforts don't usually reach.

10: **Pinelands Commission letters:** None

11: **Meeting Open to the Public:** No comments

12. **Comments from Membership:** K. Andrews mentioned that July is **Plastic Free month** globally and she will provide information for our Facebook page. She and P. Butenis described recycling work by Terra Cycle, a company that collects a wide variety of items not normally recycled locally for a fee. They also recycle cigarette waste for free. They list companies which will take back their empty product containers for free. You sign up for each product and get a postage paid mailing label (UPS) by email. P. Butenis will contact Terra Cycle to see if the Township could join their program to recycle a larger volume of used containers. R. Yeatman reported that the county will be **spraying for mosquitoes** shortly.

13: **Adjournment:** T. Ciarlante made a motion to adjourn, K. Andrews seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:35.

**Next proposed meeting date: July15, 2021**