**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)**

**MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 16, 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, R. Casian, T. Ciarlante, G. DeSorte, E. Paul, H. Pino, A. Shaw, R. Yeatman

Excused: P. Butenis

Absent: M. Ward

2. M**inutes from August meeting:** G. DeSorte moved to approve, T. Ciarlante seconded. Minutes were approved.

3. **Open to Public:** NA

4.  **Chair’s report:** We discussed our participation in the Trunk or Treat and Trail event scheduled for 10/30/21 at Lion’s Park, 5pm -9 pm. We need candy with an environmental message attached, a theme, and members to hand out the candy. Craig B suggested a garbage can monster in a recycling can. Rick suggested Terri look into getting the candy ordered from Oriental Trading since the Township has an account with them.

5. **Clean Communities:** T. Ciarlante reported on her funding accounting. We discussed how they need to reconcile the 2020 and 2021 expenses as some expenses were mistakenly deducted from the wrong budget. She would fix it with CFO Jim D’Auria.

6. **Township liaison:** R. Yeatman gave a summary of the **water testing** report and said that the Program was now closed, without further opportunity to have water tested. On the **Haines Blvd. development** application, the Lombardo property is cleaned, 96 units of affordable housing were approved and now we are waiting for FHA funding. The next meeting on the **Atco Lake** upgrade will be with the County engineers between Oct 4 and Oct 8th. Two signs for the **Marilyn Beard Trail** have been ordered from Audubon.

7. **New Business**: T. Ciarlante and G. DeSorte presented the **“Adopt-a-Lake”** pilot program. One aspect involves the County paying local members to clean Atco Lake rather than the Township funding this. No such program yet exists in New Jersey. Members were in agreement in starting this program but no official action taken yet as we need to further develop it. For the **Fall Clean-up** Day on Oct 2 T. Ciarlante is ordering hoagies and pizza and getting a dumpster. A. Shaw is getting donuts and E. Paul will get water and sodas. Give-aways will be the reusable shopping bags we have in the trailer. B. Doney or C. Damiani will be asked to put up a sign at Universal on Jackson Rd. P. Butenis is spearheading the scarecrow display.

8. **Trails Ambassador:** R. Casian spotted two river otters, which is quite rare.

9. **Comments from membership:** None

10: **Adjournment:** A. Shaw moved to adjourn and G. DeSorte seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

**Next proposed meeting date: October 21, 2021**