

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES - May 16, 2024**

Members: Rick Yeatman - Chairperson, Terry Ciarlante - Clean Communities Coordinator, David Demsey, Craig Buffington, Gabrielle DeSorte, Mike Ward, Jennifer Treloar, Bob Doney - Township Liaison

Green Team Members: Rich Casian, Ed Paul

Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM. The meeting was held in the Waterford Township Municipal Courtroom. The Sunshine Rule was announced and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll Call: Rick Yeatman, Terry Ciarlante, Mike Ward, Gabrielle DeSorte, Ed Paul, Jennifer Treloar.
Absent: David Demsey, Rich Casian, Bob Doney

Reading and approval of minutes: Minutes from the April 2024 meeting were read and approved. (Motion, Mike Ward, Second, Rick Yeatman)

Chair's report: Rick Yeatman: Atco Lake everything is still pending, waiting on the county.

Membership & leadership: We still need another member. We're not sure of the status of Dave Demsey's friend, R. Holbrook.

Goals for 2024:

Paper Shredding Event: Fall shredding event will be on the 3rd weekend of September, 9/21/24. We are setting a tentative date of 10/5/24 for the next fall clean up event. We'll check with absent members at the next meeting.

Clean Communities Report: Terry Ciarlante: Account balance is \$44,139.91 as of 5/1/24. After purchases, next month's balance will be around \$40,1191.91. Social media report: our Facebook page has 506 followers, 29% are men, 71% are women. Facebook states that our shredding event post reached 1011 people, with 46 engagements. Terry has the glasses that we will be giving to children at the fishing derby, and picked up our new tent top.

We have donations so far from Oasis and Palladinos for the fishing derby.
Terry bought a sign for the shredding event. Ed Paul will drill holes so it can be hung.

Township Committee Liaison report: (Bob Doney - absent) - nothing to report

Land Use Board Liaison Report: (Mike Ward) Mike reported that there is concern about approximately 23 individuals in town who do not comply with land use requirements, and are snubbing their noses at the Township. There was concern expressed about that. Mike also reported on the tree ordinance which the Township Committee voted down. The DEP wants us to pass this and the Township Committee is pushing back on it. Mike will send an electronic copy of the tree

ordinance to Rick, who will distribute it to WTEC members. The general consensus of all present was agreement with the Township Committee's position.

Trails Ambassador Report: Rich Casian (absent)

Old Business: Environmental School Programs. Jennifer Treloar & Terry Ciarlante

Jen reported back on the programs offered by the DEP. She will compile a copy from the website and send it to Rick for distribution to WTEC members.

Jen is also ordering supplies from Staples - battery donation boxes. We need to have these at the library and the municipal building. We'll think of other locations for them.

Trash Cans at Wharton Forest entrances: Rick reported the trash cans are up at Raritan & Burnt Mill, being picked up by public works during usual trash runs.

TREX Recycling Plan (Benches) Bob Doney has approached Vinny at Public Works about storage. Andy Wade will let us weigh what we collect at his junkyard.

Five Gallon pails - Terry confirmed we have purchased the pails.

Seek Alternate Member - We are still looking for another member.

New Business: Shredding Event, May 18, 2024 (members 8am to 1pm)

We will be missing three members, so we decided to hire help from Public Works. Terry will bring coffee and donuts. Set up begins at 8 am. We have our new, sturdy canopy. We're still waiting for the back wall with the QR code. Rick requested that any of us with handcarts bring them.

Fishing Derby - (Rick) Bob has spent around \$600 on prizes, will probably spend around \$1000. Bob will take care of arranging for port-a-potties and buying the worms. We have two large signs for the derby, Rick will paint the new date on the signs.

Pinelands Commission notifications - (none)

Meeting open to the public - (none present)

Comments from members: Terry expressed interest in grant money for town beautification programs, like hanging planters. We established that our next meeting will be June 20th. Rick expressed his concern about potential contamination from the oil tanks on the Atco Lake property. Rick also reported that the Township received correspondence from Owens-Corning. They want to come to an understanding about contaminated water and clean-up. This should lead to discussion about licensed site remediation professionals, and water allocation in the Pinelands.

Motion was made to adjourn by Terry Ciarlante, seconded by Mike Ward. Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC member