

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)  
MINUTES - September 19th, 2024**

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

**Green Team Members:** Rich Casian, Ed Paul

**Meeting called to order** at 7:05 PM. This 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, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Ed Paul & Rich Cassian. Absent: Bob Doney, Craig Buffington, Mike Ward, Gabrielle DeSorte & Dave Demsey.

**Members of the public:** Charles Damiani, former WTEC member and representing Louden Fire Department.

**Reading and approval of minutes:** Minutes from the August 2024 meeting were read and approved. Correction: Spelling of Charlie Damiani's name. (Motion, Terry Ciarlante, Second, Kyle Santos.

**Chair's report:** Rick Yeatman: Rick has received confirmation that we can do "adopt a road" activities for county roads funded by our Clean Communities money. Charlie Damiani stated that Louden Fire Department would like to participate in this program, cleaning a total of two miles. Discussion ensued as to details. They would leave trash bags on the side of the road, near an intersection for Public Works. Rick will arrange for them to have a police escort. Rick reports that the way this works is they clean twice and receive \$250. Then they can do two more clean ups (per year) and receive an additional \$250.

**Atco Lake:** Meeting held at Camden County Department of Parks with Commissioner Nash and Mayor Gianguillo. They discussed the ongoing Atco Lake upgrades. The County is moving forward with Bathymetric study/sampling. They have agreed to do a series of chemical treatments to reduce the Spaddock population. They will continue moving forward with previously noted improvements. Additional items requested 1) Fencing between Townhouses and Counties Lake property line, 2) Potential Dog Park and Beach Volleyball court. Rick reported that the County would prefer blacktop for trail areas, the membership discussed and agreed.

**Events for 2024:** We accepted the invitation from Atco Assembly of God on Jackson Road to attend their annual Fall Fest on October 19th from 10am to 2 pm. On October 5th, we will have our Fall Cleanup from 7:30 am to 11 am. Then, we will attend the Brotherton Brewery Oktoberfest from 12:30 pm to 5 pm. Our Fall Shredding Event is September 21st from 7:30 am

to Noon. Christ the Redeemer invited us to their Family Fun Day on September 21st from 10 am to 3 pm. We declined due to conflict with our Fall Shredding Event.

**Membership:** Rick announced that all WTEC positions are now filled.

**Clean Communities Report:** Terry Ciarlante: Account balance is \$20,790.23. Social media report: our Facebook page has 541 followers. Our page had a reach of 6,900. Engagement was at 2300. Our followers increased this month. Terry will put up a sign to save our spot and will get a scarecrow up on Atco Avenue by September 21st.

There was a general discussion about Clean Communities guidelines. Rick made a motion to let Public Works get a third gas blower with Clean Communities funds out of the 2022 budget; the motion was tabled.

Rick reported that Township Committeeman Andy Wade suggested that we have a member of Public Works as a Green Team member. We discussed this, including the fact that Public Works employees are union members, so a liaison would have to be paid to attend our meetings.

Rick stated that we need a detailed spreadsheet of expenditures. Kyle Santos volunteered to compile it, he just needs the data.

**Township Committee Liaison Report:** Bob Doney: (absent)

**Land Use Board Liaison Report:** Rick Yeatman: Rick reported recent discussions about Wetlands buffers.

**Trails Ambassador Report:** Rich Casian: Rich reported that Burnt Mill Road has been staying nice and clean. There was some trash dumping on Connector Road (Five Mile Road).

**Old Business:** Rick mentioned that we have had no contact from WTEC member Dave Demsey for four months, he will reach out to him. Rick also reported that TREX is willing to put a container here in the township. Kyle volunteered to go to the schools and explain, and is also willing to do pick ups for it.

**Environmental School programs:** Terry stated that Bob Doney has all the information and contacts for coordinating with the school board. Jennifer Treloar shared an email from Phuong Nguyen with the Camden County Parks Department. Rick will follow up with Nguyen.

Rick stated that there are a number of trips we can coordinate with students with Clean Communities funds. We can also fill up our WTEC bags to give away in the schools. Rich will compile a list of activities we can do in schools for the next meeting.

**Pinelands Commission notifications** - Mike Ward: absent

**Meeting open to the public** - Charlie Damiani expressed interest in returning to the WTEC. Rick Yeatman motioned to add Charlie to the Green Team. Seconded by Jennifer Treloar and approved by the Commission.

**Comments from members:** Jennifer will be absent for the October 17th meeting and requested that someone else record the minutes. Ed Paul stated that we need to check on an ANJEC membership for Kyle Santos for grant writing. Terry will find out if we have to go through the Township for the ANJEC membership.

**Motion was made to adjourn** by Terry Ciarlante, seconded by Kyle Santos. Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

**Next Meeting Date: October 17th, 2024**

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC member