

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)

MINUTES - February 20th, 2025

Members: Rick Yeatman - Chairperson, Terry Ciarlante - Clean Communities Coordinator, Craig Buffington, Gabrielle DeSorte, Mike Ward, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Kevin Hassel.

Bob Doney - Township Liaison

Green Team Members: Rich Casian, Ed Paul, Charlie Damiani

Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM. This meeting was held in the Waterford Township Municipal Courtroom. In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Open Public Meeting Act, notice

of the time and place for this meeting was listed in the Central Record and the Courier Post. The Sunshine Rule was announced and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll Call: Rick Yeatman, Jennifer Treloar, Craig Buffington, Charlie Damiani, Gabrielle DeSorte, Ed Paul, Mike Ward & Bob Doney. Absent: Terry Ciarlante, Rich Cassian, Kyle Santos & Kevin Hassall.

Reading and approval of minutes: Minutes from the January 2025 meeting were read. Craig Buffington motioned to accept the minutes, Gabrielle DeSorte seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting open to the public: Rhea Hood from Berlin Borough was present. Berlin does not have an environmental commission, we are the closest to her. She is working on an environmental degree and has an interest in environmental issues.

Chair's report: (Rick Yeatman) Rick visited the NJDEP Park Service at Atsion and collected brochures. Rick and Charlie visited Batsto.

Atco Lake: (Mayor Bob Doney) Mayor Doney reported that Deputy Mayor Giangliullo spoke to Camden County Commissioner Nash about working with the DEP to dredge Atco Lake. They need to obtain a permit; this may take until 2026. Camden County plans to start work on the trail and dock soon.

We discussed the proposed floating dock. Mayor Doney reports that Camden County is working on appraisals to purchase the property on the lake. The Mayor requested that we all think of uses for the property.

Chairman Rick Yeatman would like the WTEC to be “intensely involved” in the planning. He would also like our Green Team to be designated as “Friends of the Lake”

Gabrielle made the suggestion that we look at other towns within Camden County that have lakes, and find out which ones have structures on/near the lake. She suggested that we find out more about the relationship that the county has with those towns so that we have an idea of what to expect. Mayor Doney said we can expect to do maintenance. He also indicated he will be meeting Commissioner Nash in March or April. Rick wants us all to come with lists of what we think should be at the lake. Ed Paul suggested a frisbee golf area.

Clean Communities Report: (Rick Yeatman for Terry Ciarlante) Our Facebook page has 549 followers and 511 “likes”; there have been 3341 views of our page in the past 28 days. Rick cannot read the balance, will obtain from Terry and report at our March meeting. Our previous balance was around \$53,500.

Mayor Doney stated that all expenditures related to public works have been removed from our ledger. He stated that removal of brush and grass is not a Clean Communities expenditure. He wants more consistent scrutiny of Clean Communities money. Mayor Doney also encouraged all members of the Commission to become more familiar with Clean Communities guidelines.

Township Committee Liaison Report: (Mayor Bob Doney) The Township Hazardous Waste Disposal date is May 17th, 2025. We should plan for our Spring shredding event on the date.

He will confirm the Fishing Derby date at our next meeting, he thinks it is June 7th, 2025. Mayor Doney reports the Township is in the last two weeks of the budget process. He wants to increase the WTEC line item amount for us to use for food for our activities. The current line item amount for the WTEC is \$500. Jennifer asked if he had ironed out the reimbursement policy that he referenced at the January meeting; he responded they aren’t there yet, but they are close.

The Chair asked for a motion for dates and times for our Township Clean Up and Township Shredding events. Mike Ward motioned that we schedule April 26th 2025 for our Township Clean Up and May 17th 2025 for our Township Shredding Event. The Township Clean Up is from 7:00 AM to 12 noon, with an 8:00 AM start time. The Shredding Event times are 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM with a 9:00 AM start time. Jennifer Treloar seconded; the motion passed.

Land Use Board Liaison Report: (Mike Ward) Nothing to report

Trails Ambassador Report: (Rich Casian) Rich reported that he hasn’t seen evidence of

recent dumping. Mayor Doney stated that he was advised that as a Township, we are not permitted to place cameras. Mike Ward said he will discuss the camera policy with the police chief.

Chairman Rick Yeatman reported that we have collected almost 100 cubic yards of trash since the WTEC started roughly sixteen years ago.

Old Business: TREX benches. Rick reported that he met the actual manager at Kohl's, but she's dodging his calls. He will go there again. If we get the okay for bringing in the plastics previously discussed, it's just a matter of logistics.