**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)**

**MINUTES - July 17, 2025**

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

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

**Meeting called to order** at 7:15 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, Michael Ward, Ed Paul, Rich Cassian, Kevin Hassall. Absent: Terry Ciarlante, Craig Buffington, Gabrielle DeSorte, Kyle Santos, Bob Doney & Charlie Damiani.

**Reading and approval of minutes:** Minutes from the 6/19/2025 meeting were read and approved. One correction - correct “paddock” to “spaddock.” Motion, Kevin Hassall; Second, Rick Yeatman. Motion carried.

**Members of Public Present:** Rhea Hood-Rhoane and Raven Hood. Rhea presented her environmental book series project “The Green Team.” It contains diverse characters who address various environmental issues. Issues include native plants, wildfires, soil conservation, pollinators, food insecurity, and waste water management. Rhea would like to partner with the WTEC and Rutgers University to design and print the booklets. Estimated cost, a couple thousand dollars. Rhea will be presenting her series at a United Nations conference in November. Rick would like to see the design by October so he can present it to the Township Committee.

**Chair’s report**: Rick Yeatman:

Old business: TREX Recycling. Rick has made arrangements with Acme to drop off plastic. We will need to purchase a scale and an outdoor dropoff container. Estimate for scale is $500, estimate for container is $2000. We’ve had negative feedback from members of the Township Committee. Their concerns are related to ensuring the materials donated are clean, and the cost. Mike Ward clarified that we would be collecting mulch bags and water softener bags. Jen Treloar suggested putting the container near the mail-in ballot box so it will be under video surveillance.

**Clean Communities Report**: Terry Ciarlante: (absent, report given by Rick) Account balance is around $53,000. We are waiting on jackets for our newer members and Terry will be having coffee cups made with our logo on them.

**Township Committee Liaison Report:** Mayor Bob Doney: (absent, no report)

**Land Use Board Liaison Report:** Mike Ward The warehouse sale at the prior movie theater site went through; construction is supposed to start within 30-60 days. The DEP is scaling back the R.E.A.L. program due to bipartisan pushback against regulations. We have an inquiry out to see if any properties on Atco Avenue qualify for redevelopment money. We just finished our fourth round of affordable housing allotments. The Pinelands Commission recently came out with new rules to ease up on Pinelands credits for development.

**Trails Ambassador Report:** Rich Casian: (nothing new to report)

**Pinelands Commission notifications** - Covered by Mike Ward in the Land Use report.

**Comments from members**: Rick asked what we thought about creating signs to be posted near our two liquor stores citing ordinances about littering. Mike Ward asked that we make a recommendation the the Township Committee about local political campaigns using recyclable political signs.

**Motion was made to adjourn** by Mike Ward, seconded by Kevin Hassall. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Next Meeting Date: August 21, 2025

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC Recording Secretary