

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES - June 19th, 2025

Members: Rick Yeatman - Chairperson, Terry Ciarlante - Clean Communities Coordinator, Craig Buffington, Gabrielle DeSorte, Mike 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 7:03 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, Terry Ciarlante, Gabrielle DeSorte, Jennifer Treloar, Craig Buffington, Kyle Santos, Charlie Damiani & Kevin Hassal. Absent: Mike Ward, Rich Cassian, Ed Paul & Bob Doney

Reading and approval of minutes: Minutes from the May 2025 meeting were read.. Motion to accept made by Kyle Santos; seconded by Craig Buffington. Minutes were accepted.

Old Business: (Rick Yeatman)

TREX Recycling: Rick has made arrangements with Acme for dropping off plastic. We will need to purchase a scale and an outdoor drop-off container before collection begins. Estimated costs are \$1500 for the container and \$300 for a scale.

Classroom programs: We are still waiting for a response from the State Fire Service about educational programs aimed at 8-10 year olds on forest fires and forest regrowth. Unfortunately, they have been busy fighting fires.

Chair's report: (Rick Yeatman)

Shredding Event: Our 5/17/25 Shredding Event was well attended, Rick thanked us all for our participation.

Atco Lake: We are still waiting for Camden County to treat the lake with paddock specific herbicide to kill off the lily pads. The County brought in an amphibious craft twice to cut down the paddock near

the shoreline. It was moderately successful; the watercraft experienced a number of mechanical issues.

Educational Programs: (Jennifer Treloar) Jennifer has been in contact with Waterford teachers, principals, and school board members about funding programs and supplies. Jennifer spoke with Assistant Superintendent Dan Fox, who suggested we come up with an application form to streamline the process. He provided samples from the Women's Club and the Home & School Association. Mr. Fox suggested that once we have an application and information form for teachers, teachers will submit to the School Board, who will then forward submissions to Jennifer.

Jennifer presented a proposed program "Seeds of Change: A Fifth Grade Environmental Innovation Project" from fifth grade teachers Heather DeNafo & Jessica Borman from Waterford Elementary School. (attached to the minutes) We have also heard from Atco Elementary School teachers Deanna Griffin and Jennifer Ercol about a pollinator garden. Jennifer has also spoken to Media Specialist Elizabeth Seth at Waterford Elementary School. She is working on a list of books for the WES library. Jennifer suggested that we switch our focus from creating material to be taught to funding projects and materials for teachers that will supplement their existing curriculum. Kyle Santos volunteered to assist with creating the application form.

Fishing Derby: Our Fishing Derby on 6/7/25 was a great success, despite the threat of rain. Over 52 fish were caught, with a total of 43 registered participants. The prizes were awarded as follows:

Adult Most Caught - Juan Hildago

Adult Largest - Ryan Stevenson

Child Most Caught - Evenia Palladino

Child Largest - Zack David

Most Unusual - Olivia Knapp

Best Effort - Minor Family

Twenty vendors and residents donated funds and gifts totaling approximately \$1200. The list of donors is as follows: Car Electric, Al's Water Pump Service, Calderbanks LLC, Jack Donnelly Construction LLC, Richard & Maria Yeatman, Thomas & Carin Giangiulo, Nelson Chiropractic Center, LLC, Atco Family Dentistry, Railway Barber Company, Hairs Your Image, Ray's Barber Shop, China Max, LP Wooster Funeral Home, Tom's Auto Service Center, Big Boulder, Runway Gas Station, Dick's Auto, Gallery Pizza, Fabio Pizza, and Holistic Solutions.

Rick asked that we note in the minutes that next year, we need to request street closures ahead of time. He also suggested that instead of switching to postcards, that we continue with mailings, but

include a self-addressed stamped envelope in each envelope.

New Business

Upcoming events: WTCEA Family Fun Day on July 19th at the Township Municipal Building from 2 pm to 7 pm.

Membership: (Mayor Doney) - no report, absent

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

Clean Communities Report: (Terry Ciarlante) Our account balance is estimated at \$49,000. We have 572 followers on our Facebook page. We had 244 interactions on our posts and 3,910 views of our Fishing Derby posts.

Land Use Board Liaison report: (Mike Ward) no report, absent.

Trails Ambassador Report: (Rich Cassian) no report, absent

Pinelands Commission notifications: (Mayor Doney) no report, absent

Meeting open to the public: No members of the public were present.

Member Comments: Rick asked that we look for hand out items on Oriental Trading and send ideas to Terry. We also discussed other games that we can play at events, like a fishing game or bean bag toss. Gabrielle described a pumpkin carving event followed by a pumpkin lighting event that she went to in another town, and suggested that we consider something similar. Rick reported that we received our registration for the WTEC trailer.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Gabrielle DeSorte, seconded by Kyle Santos. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Next Meeting Date: July 17th, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC Recording Secretary

Attachments to minutes:

Seeds of Change proposal from WES teachers DeNafo & Borman

Home & School Association grant paperwork

Women's Club grant paperwork

