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**Washington Township Environmental Commission (WTEC)**

**October 3, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Start 7:30 pm: Present: Merv Haines, Bill Leavens, CJ Sinko, Joseph Amoroso, Valerie Walsh, Andrew Coppola

1. Green Fest Invasive Species Booth
   1. Committee discussed success of Invasive species Command Center booth.
   2. No one required reimbursement for expenses paid for booth setup.
2. Committee discussed possibility of changing language of conservation easements in home owner deeds to allow for volunteers and/or residents to remove invasive species in specific easements.
   1. Easements of interest would be those that have access through public property and are heavily infested with invasives threatening surrounding public grounds.
   2. Committee asked Andrew to follow up with Township Legal.
   3. Bill and CJ to approach township committee at next meeting (10/17/16) to determine if the township would be open to the idea of changing easement language.
   4. Township currently has approximately 653 easements.
3. CJ Sinko discussed inviting the Warren County Soli Conservation District to one of the Township Committee working sessions to give a presentation on self-certified animal waste plans. The Warren County District received a grant from the NJ State Department of Agriculture to assist farmers in developing animal waste management plans. The service is free of charge and the committee was in favor of the idea to promote/educate our local farmers on animal waste management plans. It was agreed the township would send out invites to all our local farmers who meet the criteria for maintaining a waste management plan once a date is set for the session. It was also agreed participation by farmers would be obligational. CJ/Bill to discuss idea with Township Committee.
4. Committee reviewed and accepted the 2016 WTEC Activity Report.
5. Merv recommended sending the High School Test Report to the Musconetcong Water Association and the Upper Raritan Watershed Association – Bill and Merv to follow up.
6. Mail Call – No requests received requiring WTEC input.
7. AOB – none

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 pm