Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey 07044

**Public Meeting: June 20, 2012 at the Verona Community Center.
Members: Gerard Shimonaski, Gloria Machnowski, James Loudon, Virginia Citrano , Anthony Saltalamacchia, Tara Bratek, Marjorie Williams , Kerry Bass and Council Liaison Kevin Ryan.**

MINUTES

I. May 15, 2012 minutes were approved.

II. Appoint VEC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 20012-2013: members agreed to keep Jerry Shimonaski and Gloria Machnowski as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

III. Jerry presented a VEC letter to the BOE with recommendations for the upcoming school year: Educate Parents On Not Idling By Schools, Implement The Green Cleaning Policy, Reduce Waste In Schools and Stand Firm On Pesticide-Free Schools.

IV. Members will attend the upcoming organic field management presentation at the July 16 Council Meeting to support switching from pesticide to pesticide-free field maintenance. Jerry will present a letter of support from the VEC.

V. Submission to ANJEC : the VEC idling poster contest and the video "Go Idle Free Verona", recorded on June 16th with HBW students will be submitted. Gloria will prepare the application. The video will be posted on our Web site and VTV.

VI. We will keep researching the possibility of composting at schools. Mr. Forte promised to switch from Styrofoam to biodegradable tableware in the school cafeterias after HBW student presented the petition organized by the VEC at the BOE meeting.

VII. Waste Water Presentation: Jerry has DVDs to show to school principals and discuss field trip options The video is on VTV.

VIII. Jerry talked about how to read a site plan and what comments and recommendations should be sent to the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment.

IX. Ideas to celebrate the first 20 years of the VEC: members suggested to organize a town clean up or river clean up, celebrate it on Earth Day with a give away for residents (compost, recycling bins, canvas bags, etc). Sign a resolution to go pesticide free, etc.