



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.*

[www.nianticriverwatershed.org](http://www.nianticriverwatershed.org)

## **Minutes**

**NRWC Board of Directors**

**November 5, 2015, 6 PM**

**East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1**

**108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT.**

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
NOV 5 2015 AT 11:00 AM/PM  
Katherine M. Dan  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management & Shellfish Commission; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; David Turner, Town of Montville; Fran Violante, Town of Waterford; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator.

Excused: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Tom Bowen, Town of Montville; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford.

Absent: Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville.

1. Call to Order: Vice-Chairperson Don Landers called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Ruth Savalle made a motion to seat board alternates Peter Harris for John Jasper and Fran Violante for Chris Tomichek, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of October 1, 2015 Meeting Minutes: Board members reviewed the minutes and verified that Dave Turner provided the second to the motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Ruth Savalle made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, with the noted correction, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Don Danila reviewed the financial report. There were no expenses in October. Don met with Kate Johnson at ECCD to set up an accounting sheet for NRWC, subsequent to the transfer of NRWC funds from ECCD. Don requested that the Committee apply for a debit card to be used for NRWC business and necessary purchases. Fran Violante made a motion to accept the report as presented and to approve the acquisition of a debit card, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, motion passes.

5. Coordinator's Report: The Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group Data Analysis RFP was posted on the Niantic River Watershed Committee website on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Judy joined Diane Herr's Waterford High School science class on October 7<sup>th</sup> to sample Jordan Brook using the Teacher Water Quality Loan Kit. Judy will be accompanying East Lyme Cub Scout Pack 7 to Latimer Brook by St. Mathias Church on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Judy spoke with Andy Waite at USGS about the Latimer Brook stream gauge. Andy informed her that USGS may not have funding allocated to support the gauge but would be willing to discuss other options including allowing the use of the existing gauging station if we acquire our own level logger and assisting us with establishing a rating curve. Judy submitted an application to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut for the watershed plan update. She will prepare an application to the Society of Women Environmental Professionals – Connecticut Chapter for the purchase of a water level logger for Latimer Brook.
6. Old Business:
  - a. Town Matters: Members discussed preparing requests for financial support as it is the beginning of budget season. Ruth reported that she attended Apple Fest in Salem on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> and distributed outreach material. Ruth also reported that the Salem Land Trust is purchasing some land in the Niantic watershed for preservation. Directors are willing to provide a letter of support for the purchase should the land trust request it.
  - b. Watershed Signs: There has been no activity on this item at this time.
7. Subcommittee Updates:
  - a. Monitoring Group: Don Danila reviewed the results of the October water sampling. He noted that, as in previous years, he observed a drop in nitrate levels in October. He reported that he collected two RBV samples from Latimer Brook and that the East Lyme Conservation Commission collected samples from Cranberry Meadow Brook. He has invited the UConn engineering students using our stream temperature data to join him for the November sampling.
  - b. Education/Outreach Group: Previously reported. Judy stated that she has been updating partner information on the NRWC website.
  - c. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: This item was previously discussed in the Coordinator's report. Don Landers suggested we start planning the 2016 application for the Dominion Foundation.
  - d. Audit Committee: The Audit Committee will meet after the beginning of 2016.
  - e. Membership Subcommittee: The Membership Committee met on October 31<sup>st</sup> to build upon previous discussion. Highlights included how to recruit members, offerings or benefits for members, and the establishment of a budget and funding to support membership activities. Discussion followed regarding how to set up a PayPal account or similar linked to the NRWC website, what to include in a membership packet, and how to keep members engaged.

8. New Business:

- a. ECCD Coordinator Services Reimbursement for July through September (grant 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr): Dave Turner made a motion to reimburse ECCD \$1500 for project management, seconded by Don Landers. All in favor, the motion passes.
- b. Stream Clean-up: Don Danila informed board members that Save-the-River/Save-the-Hills and East Lyme high school students will be cleaning up Latimer Brook behind the Flanders IGA on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. A clean-up previously scheduled for this past spring was canceled due to high flows.

9. Public Comments: None

10. Next meeting: December 3, 2015, at 6 pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.

11. Adjourn: Dave Turner made a motion to adjourn at 7:12 PM, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator

