

East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2015

Present: Arthur Carlson, Chairman
Penny Heller, Member
Don Danila, Member
Mark Christensen, Member
Ron Nichols, Alternate
Laura Ashburn, Alternate

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
Oct 20 2015 AT 12:15 AM/PM
Cesley A. Blais
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: Marvin Schutt, Member

Also Present: Gary Goeschel, Director of Planning

Call to Order. Chairman Carlson called the October 14, 2015 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Nicholas and Ms. Ashburn were asked to be seated.

MOTION (1): Mr. Christensen moved to add Gary Goeschel, Director of Planning, to give an update on the Gateway Project, under New Business. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (6-0)
Unanimous

I. Public Delegations. There were no public delegations.

II Minutes.

A. Minutes of September 9, 2015. Mr. Carlson asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the September 9, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.

The following corrections were noted: On page 2, the fourth and fifth sentence to be deleted and the following to be inserted: "All of the wells have some road salt in them." The sixth sentence to begin with "People".

MOTION (2): Mr. Christensen moved to approve the September 9, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Ms. Heller. Mr. Carlson abstained from voting.
(4-0-1) Motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Gary Goeschel, Director of Planning. Mr. Goeschel reported the commercial development of the Gateway Project falls right over the aquifer. Costco is within that area. He showed the Commercial Master Plan dated August 31, 2014. There will be a temporary driveway until East Society Road

connects to it. Ms. Heller felt the temporary road will be a non-conforming road. Mr. Goeschel stated it will be a driveway to Costco. DOT has advised it will do its work when Costco comes to Town. Mr. Christensen asked what is the time frame for the construction? Mr. Goeschel replied it needs to be designed first. He showed a concept to Commission members. Mr. Nichols added all of this is happening over the aquifer which is part of our public drinking water system. Mr. Christensen stated they want a plan to send out to bid by spring. Mr. Goeschel stated if Costco gets built then DOT will make this a priority project. Mr. Goeschel stated 120 additional units have been approved. Costco will not come to East Lyme unless the additional units pay \$3 million for infrastructure. Mr. Christensen stated when they did the conceptual drawing Costco was not going to have access over Dean Road. Mr. Goeschel replied the initial access was to be off of 161. Planning has given Zoning its comments. Zoning is the aquifer protection agency. Mr. Carlson suggested securing open space and catching run-off through a filtration system or artificial wetlands to protect our drinking water supply. Costco is expected to come to East Lyme in 2017. They will need site development approval from the Inland Wetlands Agency. Mr. Carlson asked how long can runoff from the parking lot at the Costco site not affect our water supply? Mr. Nichols felt it is obvious that continued run off from the parking lot does not enhance our drinking water supply. Ms. Heller felt we need a water plan to protect the water we have.

Mr. Carlson will cancel the regularly scheduled meeting of November 18 and have a Special Meeting on November 10.

IV. OLD BUSINESS.

V. Continuation of Water Study. There was further discussion on the Water Study. We are developing the report format and substance.

VI. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

A. Communications. There were no communications.

B. Agribusiness Subcommittee. Mr. Christensen reported Ms. Smith applied for the Farmer's Market Grant.

A Bike Ride will be held on September 24, 2016 together with the Pequot Cyclists. Parks and Recreation will set it up and contact the police in various towns that it will take place in. There will be a short ride for youngsters, as well as a 10, 20 and 62 mile ride.

C. Bio-Rapid Assessment Report. Ms. Heller reported we are unable to sample water because of low water levels.

D. Chairman's Report. Mr. Carlson reported on the walking path (trail) from Darrow Pond to Hartman parking line. A color trail map has been made. The Town was awarded a \$50,000 grant for trail work and lot development along the trail.

E. Ex-officio. Mrs. Hardy was unable to be present, and there was no report.

VII. Adjournment.

MOTION (3): Ms. Heller moved to adjourn the October 14, 2015 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:45 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Christensen. (6-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary