

East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 11, 2015

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
May 20 2016 AT 8:30 AM/PM
Teresa A. Blain
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Present: Arthur Carlson, Chairman
Mark Christiansen, Member (7:07 p.m.)
Penny Heller, Member
Laura Ashburn, Alternate
Ron Nichols, Alternate

Absent: Marvin Schutt, Member
Rose Ann Hardy, Ex-Officio

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Carlson called the May 11, 2016 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources to order at 7:03 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

I. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS – none

II. MINUTES

A. **Minutes of April 13, 2016**

The following amendments were proposed:

item IV(A) **Continuation of Water Study.** Mr. Carlson and Ron Nicols *Nichols* will meet with ...

item IV(C) **RBA Report--Penny Heller.** ~~We have found~~ *Test results indicate that the water is better in the north end than in the south end of Town.*

Motion (1): Motion made by Commissioner Heller, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, to approve the Minutes of April 13, 2016, as amended. Voice vote, 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Summary of Our Accomplishments**

Chairman Carlson is in the process of gathering and assembling the Commission's accomplishments over the past six (6) years.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Continuation of Water Study**

The Water Study will emphasize the importance of preserving open space for the purpose of preserving the quality of water. Chairman Carlson and Commissioner Nichols met with a DEEP Representative who is primarily involved with construction

stormwater runoff and is in the process of identifying non-point runoff sources and discussed the (partial) aquifer protection zone.

Commissioner Ashburn suggested the Commission have a station at next year's Stormwater Classroom, an outdoor environmental classroom for students.

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. **Communications** – *none*

B. **Agribusiness Subcommittee**

Commissioner Christensen reported that the Kalal's have volunteered their farm to be utilized as a test plot for the manure management course. They have attended a number of seminars and learned that an average of 49% of nitrogen is attributable to human sewage (city and septic) along coastal areas in the State. In East Lyme, it is estimated that 12% of nitrogen derives from animal manure (farm and wild).

While they are still deciding upon the exact theme, the Subcommittee will be hosting a float for this month's Memorial Day Parade that will highlight a honeybee hive, goats, gardening, and tractors. A sign noting that the Subcommittee is under the CNRC Commission was suggested.

Three booths will be reserved for Celebrate East Lyme for the Subcommittee and Conservation for Natural Resources Commission.

Three farms located on Grassy Hill have been confirmed for Open Farm Day: Morgan's Backyard Chickens, Alicia Gear's Queensway Farm (horse facility), and Kalal's Farm (beef, hay, honey, and, possibly, manure management and a hay ride). The CT Farm Bureau will be partnering with the Subcommittee and help advertise the event. Creating and posting a map indicating all of the farms in Town and stars (or similar) indicating those farms that will be participating in Open Farm Day was suggested.

A Beekeeping Sub-Subcommittee under the Agribusiness Subcommittee was formed. Upon discovering that beekeeping is technically illegal in the Town of East Lyme and, while the Zoning Commission is agreeable to allow beekeeping on two-acre zones, the Sub-Subcommittee is in the process of creating an Apiary proposal that will allow beekeeping on smaller parcels of land.

Motion (2): Motion made by Commissioner Nichols, seconded by Commissioner Heller, to review and sign a letter in support of an Apiary Ordinance. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Though they are in support of the event, the Oswegatchie Hills have declined participation in the Bike Race. A letter has been drafted and is ready to be mailed to

solicit for sponsorships in the amounts of \$2,000, \$1,000, and \$250. Signs have been created and will be posted at the upcoming Tour de Lyme event. The event is currently listed on the website.

B. RBA Report – Penny Heller

Commissioner Heller submitted her Report, which includes a graph clearly illustrating quality of the water in the north (healthy), middle (moderately impaired) and southern (very impaired) areas of the Town.

C. Chairman’s Report – none

D. Ex-Officio Report – not present

Commissioner Nichols plans to visit the Town Librarian to discuss and ensure that all Studies and Reports are received and properly stored.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion (2): Motion made Commissioner Heller, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, to adjourn the May 11, 2016 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:18 p.m. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Acting Recording Secretary for the Town of East Lyme