



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

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Sept 6 2016 AT 12:15 AM (PM)
Kaunyalba, etc
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

August 4, 2016, 6:04pm

East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1

108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT

Attendees: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, Deep Watershed Manager; and Fran Violante, Waterford; Dan Mullins, Waterford resident; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator

Excused: Tom Bowen, Town of Montville; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville

Absent: Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Don Danila made a motion to seat Ralph Bates for Don Landers, seconded by Jon Jasper. All in favor, motion passes. Don Danila made a motion to seat Fran Violante for Doug Lawson, seconded by Ralph Bates. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of July 7, 2016 Meeting Minutes: Don Danila made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Ralph Bates. All in favor, motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Presented by Don Landers, motion to accept as presented by Ralph Bates, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, motion passes.
5. Coordinator's Report: Presented by Judy Rondeau and discussed. It was mentioned that a mid-summer festival is held in Old Lyme each year at the end of July. The festival is larger than East Lyme Day and may be a good venue for outreach. Eric Thomas reported review of the watershed based plan update 319 application is moving through the selection process at DEEP. He also noted that the Hole in the Wall stormwater classroom detention basin renovations are complete and shared some project photographs. Fran Violante provided an update on the Mago Point ad hoc committee.
6. Old Business:
 - a. Review and Acceptance of Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual: Don Danila made a motion to accept the manual as written and presented, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, the motion passes. The Committee thanked Ralph Bates for preparing the document.

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- b. Rain Garden Initiative Discussion: Judy reviewed a proposal to conduct a rain garden initiative in the watershed based on a similar project being conducted in the Peconic estuary on Long Island, using funds allotted in the 2015 Dominion Grant. The program would reimburse homeowners to install and maintain their own rain gardens. A motion was made by Ruth Savalle to approve the initiative and expenditure of funds as proposed, seconded by Ralph Bates. All in favor, motion passes.
- c. Niantic River Behavior Change Initiative Discussion: Judy and Eric reviewed previous discussion regarding this proposal from the Long Island Sound Study. Holly Drinkuth of The Nature Conservancy will attend our next meeting to discuss the initiative further.
- d. ECCD Project Support - April to June, 2016: Dan Danila made a motion to authorize reimbursement of \$2250.00 to ECCD for project support for the period of April to June, 2016, from the 2016 Dominion Grant, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, motion passes.
- e. Town Matters: No new information.
- f. Watershed Signs: No new information.

7. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. Monitoring Group: Report was presented by Don Danila. John Jasper reported he has been in touch with Deb Surabian of NRCS about sediment coring in the Niantic River estuary. Dr. Craig Tobias at UConn-Avery Point has also expressed interest in the core sampling as well.
- b. Education/Outreach Group: Covered under Coordinator's Report.
- c. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: No new information.
- d. Membership Subcommittee: There was brief discussion regarding properly documenting membership dues and donations.

8. New Business:

- a. Waterford Mago Point Overlay District Draft Regulations: The Committee expressed interest in sending a letter of support for the overlay district to the Town.
- b. Stones Ranch/Camp Niantic – There was brief discussion regarding the proposed Stones Ranch/Camp Niantic Joint Use study, including an upcoming public hearing on August 30th.

9. Public Comments: None.

10. Next meeting: September 1, 2016 at 6pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT. There was brief discussion regarding whether to postpone the Sept. 1st meeting to Spt. 8th because of the Labor Day Holiday. Judy will poll directors and notify all regarding the meeting date preference.

11. Adjournment: Don Danila made a motion to adjourn at 7:30pm, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth L. Savalle
Secretary

