



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.*

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

**Minutes  
NRWC Board of Directors  
February 4, 2016, 6 PM  
East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1  
108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT.**

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
Feb 05 2016 AT 12:00 AM/PM  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; 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; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Dan Mullins, ECCD/Waterford resident; Aaron Pauley, Niantic resident.

Excused: Tom Bowen, Town of Montville; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Fran Violante, Town of Waterford.

Absent: Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville.

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Don Landers made a motion to seat board alternates Ralph Bates and Peter Harris, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of January 7, 2016 Meeting Minutes: Don Landers made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Don Danila reviewed the financial report. Dave Turner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, motion passes. Rick Kanter requested that a second copy of the balance sheet be printed so that the Directors have a review copy.
5. Coordinator's Report: Judy provided a letter of support to Steve Harney for the New England Forestry Foundation Open Space Land Acquisition Fund proposal to purchase land in Waterford located near the Niantic River Headwater Preserve land. She attended the Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group meeting at UConn-Avery Point on February 1<sup>st</sup>. She received notification from the Society of Women Environmental Professionals – Connecticut Chapter (SWEP-CT) that our application was not selected for

funding. EPOC has announced their 2016 grant round. Judy plans to apply to this source for funding for water level logger; however, she spoke briefly with John Mullaney at the Nitrogen work Group meeting and learned that the Latimer Brook gauging station set-up may not be as straight forward as she thought. She will speak with John more to determine if it is still suitable for our use. Judy has begun to prepare the CT DEEP FY2016 CWA Section 319 grant proposal for the update of the NRWPP. Finally, Dominion Foundation has announced their 2016 grant round. Judy will begin to draft a proposal for that funding source. Regarding ECCD projects in the Niantic River watershed, Judy and Dan Mullins met with Waterford Planner Abby Piersall and Environmental Planner Maureen Fitzgerald to talk about the Mago Point tree filter project. The project is still a go, but timing may be an issue. Judy provided a quick rundown on the number of hours she is currently funded for. She suggested that her ability to use her time most productively could be improved if members were willing to assume some administrative duties, such as meeting minutes and website maintenance.

6. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: Rick Kanter reported that that shellfish beds were closed due to recent rain, but that the scallop season was still open. Peter Harris reported that NOAA collected approximately 100 scallops for spawning at other locations.

7. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. Monitoring Group: Don Danila reviewed the results of the February water sampling.
- b. Education/Outreach Group: Previously reported in the Coordinator's Report.
- c. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: Previously discussed in the Coordinator's Report. Rick Kanter asked if we had a spreadsheet or similar tool to track upcoming grants, and suggested it would be beneficial to create one. Judy stated that we do not, but one could easily be created.
- d. Audit Committee: The Audit Committee, which is comprised of Don Landers, Rick Kanter, and Ralph Bates, will meet this month.
- e. Membership Subcommittee: Fran Violante was not able to attend this evening's meeting, but Aaron reported that Fran has been very busy compiling membership materials. Discussion followed regarding how to engage new members, what levels to establish for sponsorship, and the need for a semi-annual newsletter to inform and update members on watershed activities. Directors discussed engaging members through participation in watershed activities.

8. New Business:

- a. Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition Discussion: Directors discussed whether to join the *Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition*. After discussion, it was decided that directors should confirm with their respective municipalities before making a

decision. This item will be put on the March meeting agenda for further discussion.

9. Public Comments: None

10. Next meeting: March 3, 2016, at 6 pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.

11. Adjourn: Don Landers made a motion to adjourn at 7:21 PM, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator

