



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

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Minutes

**Niantic River Watershed Committee
Monitoring Subcommittee Meeting
May 5, 2016, 5 - 6 pm
East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1
108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT**

FILED

JUNE 30 2016 AT 2:15 AM/PM
Karen Galbo, CT
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Don Danila, Maureen Fitzgerald, Don Landers, Nancy Kalal, Dan Mullins, Chris Tomichek, Eric Thomas, Dave Turner, Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator.

1. Welcome - Watershed Coordinator Judy Rondeau opened the meeting at 5:12 pm.
2. Review of January 7, 2016 Meeting Minutes – Subcommittee members reviewed the January 7, 2016 meeting minutes. Chris Tomichek made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, the minutes were approved.
3. Water Quality Monitoring:
 - a. Latimer Brook Monitoring Program update - Don Danila reviewed recent water quality data. Don suggested that we should continue for one more year, which would give us 5 years of data, and re-evaluate at that time how to proceed. There was brief discussion about shifting toward wet weather sampling, with fewer core sites.
 - b. UConn student study update – John Jasper has requested that the student, William Grant, present the results at an upcoming Board of Directors meeting.
 - c. DEEP Latimer Brook Fish Survey Discussion – Eric Thomas spoke with DEEP Inland Fisheries and Anadromous Fish program staff about the results of the 2013 fish survey of Latimer Brook. Fewer fish and fish species were found than anticipated, and species tended to be warm water rather than cold water species.
 - d. River Bio-assessment for Volunteers (RBV) – Judy reviewed the results of the fall 2015 RBV sampling. NRWC collected RBV samples from three sites along Latimer Brook, and the East Lyme Conservation of Natural Resources Commission collected samples from Cranberry Meadow Brook. We did not collect samples from Oil Mill Brook or Stony Brook this year because Waterford retained a contractor to conduct stream bio-assessments. The 2016 RBV report has not been completed, but initial reports indicate 4 or more most wanted insects at the two lower Latimer Brook sites (Colony Road and IGA), and 2 most wanted at St Mathias Church. One most wanted insect was identified in Cranberry Meadow Brook. Maureen Fitzgerald reported that the Town of Waterford has received the results from their consultant and will make the results available after they have been internally reviewed.

- e. Data assessment/evaluation/report – Judy has not updated the current two-page report, but will do so for Celebrate East Lyme Day.
 - f. Draft QAPP – The QAPP is in progress. Judy would appreciate any assistance with its completion.
4. Partner Reports: None.
5. Other Business: Don Danila reported that the dissolved oxygen sonde on the NRWC YSI has not been working properly. He has been using a meter on loan from Millstone Environmental Lab. Dave Turner asked if we could see a signal in Latimer Brook from public drinking water supply diversions in any of our water quality data. Tom Bowen stated that the diversions were taken from deep groundwater wells so it was unlikely that flow in the brook would be affected.
6. Next meeting: May 5, 2016, location to be determined.
7. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator