

**EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 8, 2017**

Present: Arthur Carlson, Chairman  
Mark Christensen, Member  
Ron Nichols, Alternate  
Laura Ashburn, Alternate

FILED

Absent: Don Danila, Member  
Marvin Schutt, Member  
Penny Heller, Secretary

NOV 20 2017 AT 11:15 AM/PM  
*Tim Londregan*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Also Present: Tim Londregan

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Carlson called the November 8, 2017 Conservation of Natural Resources Regular Meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Mr. Nichols and Ms. Ashburn were asked to be seated.

**I. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS**

Mr. Londregan invited Commission Members to a meeting on December 7 at 6 p.m. at Waterford Town Hall at which Army Corps will attend.

Mr. Nichols asked Mr. Londregan to describe his work. Mr. Londregan replied he currently runs the only commercial hatchery in the State of Connecticut. He stated at the present time there are 22 oyster producers in Connecticut. The concept is to take 3/8 seed and grow it to 1 1/2 in the river. The majority will be sold in Connecticut. Mr. Londregan stated he pays for the area by giving a percentage of what he produces to WELSCO. The more shellfish there is the more people will buy permits.

Mr. Londregan stated it is very low density shellfishing. If all the water disappears, then they will see something in the water. He added when he had to prepare his sounding map, it had to be zero tide which happens seven times a month.

Mr. Christensen added half of the time it is night and doesn't last long.

Mr. Londregan stated he can't touch the mud area. Waterford and East Lyme have put moorings in that area. Mr. Nichols asked if Mr. Londregan is using public trust lands for private use. It is a water dependant use which qualifies for the use of public lands. Mr. Carlson felt it was a natural resources use. He asked if Mr. Londregan was doing anything to damage our resources? Mr. Londregan felt it is a net gain for the environment. All shellfish have to be tested.

Mr. Nichols asked what species do you use? Mr. Londregan replied Niantic Bay scallops.

## **II. MINUTES**

A. Mr. Carlson asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the October 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

It was felt that the letter from the Agribusiness Subcommittee to Army Corps of Engineers in support of the shellfish enterprise should be attached to the October 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION (1):        Mr. Christensen moved to approve the October 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Conservation of Natural Resources, pending attaching the letter from the Agribusiness Subcommittee to the Army Corps of Engineers supporting the shellfish enterprise. Seconded by Ms. Ashburn. (4-0) Unanimous.**

**B. Schedule of 2018 Meeting Dates.** The Commission reviewed the schedule of 2018 meeting dates.

**MOTION (2):        Ms. Ashburn moved to accept the 2018 meeting dates as presented. Seconded by Mr. Nichols. (4-0) Unanimous.**

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION (3):        Ms. Ashburn moved to add to the Agenda under Old Business item 1. Revisit the Aquaculture Issue. Seconded by Mr. Carlson. (4-0) Unanimous.**

**A. Goodwin Trail.** Mr. Carlson reported on November 9, 2017 he will meet with the East Lyme Engineering Department, Gary Goeschel and the contractor regarding water bars.

## **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Continuation of the Water Study.** Each Commission member drafted a brief write-up. He asked that Commission members review each of the write-ups and make any edits they feel are necessary. Mr. Carlson will then compile the report.

**B. Revisit the Aquaculture Issue.** Mr. Carlson asked for a volunteer to write a letter of support to be read at the hearing on this issue. Ms. Asburn and Mr. Christensen agreed to prepare the letter of support.

## **V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Communications.** Mr. Carlson gave Commission members copies of "The Habitat".

**B. Agribusiness Subcommittee.** Mr. Christensen reported the Agribusiness Subcommittee sent a letter in favor the aquaculture operation in the Niantic River.

He informed the Commission the Agribusiness Subcommittee is hoping to get passed zoning regulations on beekeeping.

The Potluck Supper will be held in early January.

Smith Acres has asked for a letter supporting the Farmers Market.

**MOTION (4):        Mr. Christensen moved to write a letter  
supporting the Farmers Market in  
Niantic. Seconded by Ms. Ashburn.  
(4-0) Unanimous.**

Mr. Christensen reported the Agribusiness Subcommittee wishes to have the Black Hawk, Mr. Londregan and Rickey Pickets on Open Farm Day.

**C. Chairman's Report.** Mr. Carlson had no other items to discuss.

**D. Ex-Officio Report.** Ms. Hardy was unable to be present.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION (5):        Ms. Ashburn moved to adjourn the  
November 8, 2017 Conservation of  
Natural Resources Regular Meeting  
at 8:20 p.m. Seconded by Mr.  
Christensen. (4-0) Unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary**