

EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 10, 2018

Present: Art Carlson, Chairman  
Penny Heller, Secretary  
Don Danila  
Laura Ashburn  
Mark Christensen

Absent: Ron Nichols, Alternate

Also Present: Rose Ann Hardy, Ex-officio

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
Jan 18, 2018 AT 8:05 AM/PM  
Brenda D. Hill, ATC  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### I. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

There were no guests.

### II. MINUTES

A. Minutes of December 13, 2017. Mr. Carlson asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the December 13, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources.

**MOTION (1): Ms. Ashburn moved to approve the December 13, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources. Seconded by Ms. Heller. Mr. Christensen abstained from voting. (4-0-1) Motion carried.**

### III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Officers for 2018. The Commission was asked for nominations for Chairperson of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources for 2018.

**MOTION (2): Mr. Christensen moved to nominate Art Carlson as Chairman of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources for 2018.**

There were no other nominations.

A vote was taken and Mr. Carlson was unanimously elected Chairman of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources for 2018.

The Commission was asked for nominations for Secretary of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources for 2018.

**MOTION (3): Mr. Christensen moved to nominate Penny Heller as Secretary of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources for 2018.**

There were no other nominations.

A vote was taken and Penny Heller was unanimously elected Secretary of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources for 2018.

B. New Initiatives. Mr. Carlson asked the Commission for comments on new initiatives suggested by Ron Nichols.

After much discussion, it was decided to add information on invasive species, surface water quality, sea level rise problems, to the Town's website, as this is the most central access point for the Town boards, commissions and citizens.

Ms. Ashburn drafted a letter to Ms. Cori Rose of the Army Corps of Engineers regarding our position on oyster farming in the Niantic River in which we are in favor of. The Commission made edits and Ms. Ashburn agreed to revise it.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Outline of Water Study Report. Mr. Carlson distributed copies of a draft outline of the Water Study Report.

#### **V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Communications. There were no communications received.

B. Agribusiness Subcommittee. Mr. Christensen reported Mr. Dinsmore, President of Beekeeping Association, discussed an ordinance for beekeeping. Beekeeping should be an accessory use on residential property. The smaller lot would be allowed fewer hives. Lots greater than one acre would not be limited. He asked that this Commission sponsor this amendment as accessory use for beekeepers. Ms. Hardy suggested that a letter be written by this Commission requesting an amendment to the Town's regulations. Mr. Danila was in favor of it. He asked that colony and nucleus colony be defined and that the Connecticut's Best Management Practice be included. Mr. Christensen replied Connecticut's Best Management Practice would also be submitted.

Mr. Christensen felt there is a need to have another Open Forum on improvements to the interstate. He felt the state must put in a spill mitigation containment. He suggested that this Commission write a letter to the Board of Selectmen and/or DOT concerning this matter. Ms. Hardy agreed to bring the matter up to the Selectmen. The Commission agreed to write a letter to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Christensen referred to letter dated December 4, 2008 to Gregory Leonard, General Manager, Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority, regarding Miller Pond Public Water Supply Stainability.

Ms. Heller and Ms. Ashburn agreed to draft a letter.

C. Chairman's Report. Mr. Carlson referred to Section II of the outline of the Water Study Report which referred to an article written for the Nature Conservancy summer 2017 issue entitled "Liquid Assets". It states by maintaining the upstream land in as natural a state as possible you minimize the chance of bringing contaminants into the aquifer and/or your house.

D. Ex-officio Report. There was no report.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION (4): Mr. Danila moved to adjourn the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:45 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (5-0) Unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary**