

EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2018

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

Alternate: Ron Nicolas

Absent: Harvey Beeman

FILED

JULY 18 20 18 AT 8:45 AM PM
Carroll
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Carlson called the July 11, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS. There were no guests.

MOTION (1): Ms. Ashburn moved to add status of the DOT letter to this evening's Agenda, under Old Business, Item D. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (5-0) Unanimous.

MOTION (2): Mr. Danila moved to add under Old Business Letter to the Editor of the New London Day, as item E. Seconded by Ms. Ashburn. (5-0) Unanimous.

II. MINUTES

A. Minutes of June 13, 2018. Mr. Carlson asked for corrections, additions or deletions to the June 13, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Minutes (see attached corrected minutes).

MOTION (3): Mr. Christensen moved to accept the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources June 13, 2018 Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Danila. (5-0) Unanimous.

III. NEW BUSINESS

There was no discussion of new business.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Progress in Putting Water Study Report Together. Commission members reviewed the draft Water Study Report and made suggestions for improving it. Ms. Heller agreed to finalize it.

Mr. Christensen felt it should be included in the POCD.

B. Work on the Goodwin Trail. Mr. Carlson reported the trail has been 90% completed. The invasive species have been destroyed on the former four acres of pasture which the trail crosses. The State Forester observed what has been done and praised the work.

- C. SustainabilityCT.org Ms. Heller reported the Commission is waiting to hear from Ms. Hardy on whether or not the Board of Selectmen will approve it. She stated it is not possible to do the program unless the Board of Selectmen approve it. Ms. Heller agreed to send an email to Ms. Hardy to determine the status of this matter. Ms. Heller informed the Commission Judy Rondeau has been working in East Lyme. She has received a generous grant to be used for rain gardens. She would like to put three in every town. The Commission suggested putting them in Oswegatchie Hills and Veterans Field and another location to be determined.
- D. Status of DOT Letter. Regarding catch basins on I-95, Ms. Heller agreed to write an email to Ms. Hardy to request the status on this matter.
- E. Letter to the Editor of the New London Day. Mr. Danila agreed to follow-up on this matter.

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Communications. Mr. Carlson reported on correspondence received.
- B. Agribusiness Subcommittee. Mr. Christensen reported members of the Agribusiness Subcommittee will have a booth during Celebrate East Lyme. Flyers on Open Farm Day are being printed for distribution during Celebrate East Lyme. The Police Commission has agreed to allow us to have hay rides. The hayrides will begin at Lincoln Street. Parking is available at the Town Hall.

No progress has been made on the Beekeeping Ordinance or Music at Farms.
- C. Chairman's Report. Mr. Carlson reported the Hathaway Farm (142 acres) is up for sale. Mr. Christensen reported this property has limited access.
- D. Ex-Officio Report. Ms. Hardy was not present and there was no report.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (4): MS. HELLER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE JULY 11, 2018 EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES MEETING AT 8:30 P.M. SECONDED BY Ms. ASHBURN. (5-0) UNANIMOUS.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

CORRECTED

EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGULAR
MEETING OF
JUNE 13, 2018

Present: Arthur Carlson, Chairman
Don Danila
Penny Heller, Secretary
Mark Christiansen
Laura Ashburn

Alternate: Harvey Beeman

Absent: Ron Nichols, Alternate

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

There were no guests.

II. MINUTES

Commission member Mark Christiansen arrived.

- A. Minutes of May 9, 2018. Mr. Carlson asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the May 9, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources.

The following corrections were noted: On page 2 under item C. the paragraph is to be rewritten as follows: "Ms. Heller reported there are three grant organizations through Eastern Connecticut State College this Commission can apply for following certification. In order to receive these grants and certification, we will need a consensus from other town commissions."

On page 2 the first sentence of the second paragraph in item B. to be rewritten as follows: "The Agribusiness Subcommittee will have a booth on July 21 at Celebrate East Lyme promoting shell fishing".

MOTION (1): Mr. Danila moved to accept the May 9, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Ms. Ashburn. (5-0) Unanimous.

III. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION (2): Mr. Christiansen moved to add Discussion of paying for Zoning change as Item 1, Under New Business. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (5-0) Unanimous.

1. Paying for Zoning Change. Mr. Carlson and Mr. Christiansen received conflicting information regarding whether or not this Commission needs to pay a fee for a zoning change. Ms. Hardy agreed to look into this matter and suggested encumbering funds for this fee.

MOTION (3): Ms. Ashburn moved that if it is determined that this Commission must pay a fee for the Beekeeping Zoning Regulation change that we determine if we have sufficient funds remaining in this Commission's budget. (5) Unanimous.

Mr. Christiansen reported the suggested amendment for music at a farm will be held at the July Zoning Commission Meeting.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Progress in Putting Water Study Report Together. Ms. Heller distributed copies of the work thus far on the Water Study Report for this Commission's review.
- B. Work on the Goodwin Trail. Mr. Carlson reported much has been accomplished on the Goodwin Trail. Invasive species were removed from four acres. This work was recommended by the State Forester and was approved by DEEP. Semi-decayed wood chips were spread from the parking lot to the field. Twenty-nine water bars were put in. Mr. Christiansen felt the Goodwin Trail is getting much use.
- C. SustainabilityCT.org. Mr. Carlson was informed by 2050 the sea level is expected to rise 18" to 20" higher. Mr. Danila informed the Commission Sen. Murphy will have a workshop in Essex on June 15. He agreed to provide information to any Commission member who wished to attend.

Ms. Heller reported the Nature Conservancy has a sustainability kit to guide the Town or a landowner on good practices. Mr. Carlson added this will affect Zoning Regulations.

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Communications. There were no communications.
- B. Agribusiness Subcommittee. Mr. Christiansen reported the members of the Agribusiness Subcommittee were in the Memorial Day Parade. The theme was farming in the sea. The crowd seemed to enjoy it. The subcommittee would like to send another letter to WELSCO. Mr. Danila has attended WELSCO meetings and stated they are revising their Management Plan. Mr. Carlson stated shell fishing cleans the water and provides more shellfish for recreational activities. Mr. Danila felt it was good for cleaner water, recreational shell fishing, the economy and it is a non-polluting industry. There was a general consensus of the Commission to support this type of shell fishing in this environment and to send a letter to WELSCO, as well as a letter to the editor of the New London Day.

Mr. Christiansen reported some members of the Agribusiness Subcommittee will be involved in Celebrate East Lyme. We will also have three open farms (Niantic Bay Shellfishing, Black Hawk fishing and Rickety Pickets, all in Niantic) on Open Farm Day. Mr. Londregan has agreed to demonstrate how oysters are harvested. Rickety Pickets gardens will also be involved.

Mr. Christiansen stated the Agribusiness Subcommittee will be charged \$40 for a booth at Celebrate East Lyme. Mr. Kahal had discussion with Chief Finkelstein regarding hay rides and the Chief had no objection to them. Mr. Nickerson would prefer no hay rides. Mr. Christiansen will attend a Police Commission Meeting at 6 p.m. on June 14. He has been informed a state permit is needed in order to have hay rides. The senior bus or a trolley was suggested to shuttle individuals.

Historical Properties will have a booth for the three historical houses in town and will also pay \$40 for the booth.

- C. Chairman's Report. Mr. Carlson discussed Water for Hartford about the early 1800s drinking water supply from the Connecticut River, and that after houses were built upstream they had to find another source of water.
- D. Ex-Officio Report. Ms. Hardy outlined a letter regarding Hazard Litigation for Mr. Nickerson's review and suggested that all Selectmen sign it. Ms. Hardy received a telephone call from a reporter who was interested in a story on this matter. There is concern in the area of I-95 and major business coming in over the aquifer.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION (4): Mr. Danila moved to adjourn the June 13, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:25 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary