



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.*

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FILED

**Minutes**  
**NRWC Board of Directors**  
**June 7, 2018 6:00pm**  
**East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1**  
**108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT**

July 2 20 18 AT 8:09 AM PM  
*(Signature)*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission (WELSCO); John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Kerry Taylor, Town of Salem; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Tim Sargent, USGS (guest); Margaret Miner, CT Rivers Alliance (guest); Sean Slusarz, East Lyme Scout Troop 240 (guest); Kevin Slusarz, East Lyme Scout Troop 240 (guest).

Excused: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; David Bliven, Town of Montville; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP.

Absent: None.

1. Call to Order: Chair Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: No alternates were present. Introductions were made to Kerry Taylor and Melissa Bezanson, the new representatives from the Town of Salem.
3. Discussion regarding the re-activation of the USGS streamflow gage on the Latimer Brook: This item was postponed pending the arrival of all discussion participants. Upon arrival of invited guests, John Jasper provided an overview of the USGS stream gauge operation. John stated that continuation of the gauge is necessary for NRWC to determine nutrient loading to the Niantic River from the Latimer Brook watershed. Tim Sargent discussed several options available for operating the gauge, ranging from full operation by USGS to the installation of a staff gauge and establishment of a rating curve. Discussion about potential funding schemes followed.
  - a. Pine Grove Rain Garden: Sean Slusarz, an Eagle Scout from East Lyme Troop 240 was present to discuss the installation of a rain garden on Laurel Street at Pine Grove as part of his Eagle Scout project. This rain garden is being installed in partnership with the Pine Grove Association and ECCD, utilizing funds from the NRWC Rain Garden Initiative and ECCD's 100 Rain Barrels/100 Rain Garden project (funded through the NFWF LISFF). Sean provided an

overview of the project for the Board. Don Landers made a motion to approve the proposal, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, the motion passes.

4. Review and Approval of the May 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes: Don Danila noted a typo in Item 7b; in line 3 correct 'if' to 'in'. Don Danila made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, motion passes.
5. Treasurer's Report: Presented by Don Danila. Don noted that he received the 2018 Dominion Foundation grants funds. Dave Turner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, motion passes.
6. Coordinator's Report: Judy Rondeau reviewed her activities for the past month. Don Landers updated directors on the proceedings of the June 4<sup>th</sup> Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group meeting and the Vaudrey Niantic River estuary model.
7. DEEP Liaison Report: Judy shared the DEEP Liaison's report with the Board.
8. Old Business:
  - a. Town Matters: Dave Turner suggested the watershed coordinator prepare watershed binders for the new directors.
  - b. Niantic River Watershed Plan Update Contract: Chris Tomichek reported that NRWC has received the executed contract and can begin work. Judy will send an email to the RFP subcommittee to begin preparation of the RFP. Chris provided an overview of the WBP update for the new directors.
9. Subcommittee Updates:
  - a. Monitoring Group: Don Danila stated he will schedule the summer sampling at the next forecast rain fall.
  - b. Education/Outreach Group: This item was reviewed in the Coordinator's Report. Don Landers discussed reproducing the Feb/Mar 2018 Sound Outlook for distribution at Celebrate East Lyme Day.
  - c. Grant Review/Fundraising: This item was reviewed in the Coordinator's Report.
  - d. Membership Subcommittee: This subcommittee is currently inactive.
  - e. NRWPP Update/RFP Subcommittee: This item was discussed in item 8b.
10. New Business: Chris Tomichek reminded the Board that the secretary position is vacant and urged directors to consider volunteering to fill the position.
11. Public Comments: Peter Harris thanked directors (and family) who attended the May 17<sup>th</sup> WELSCO public hearing, and provided a brief overview of the draft aquaculture policy for new directors.

12. The next meeting will be held on July 5, 2018 at 6:00 PM in East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.
13. Adjournment: A motion was made by Don Danila at 8 pm to adjourn, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Rondeau".

Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator

