EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2018

Present:

Arthur Carlson, Chairman

Don Danila

Mark Christensen

Absent:

Harvey Beeman, Alternate

Laura Ashburn, Commission Member

Penny Heller, Commission Member

Ron Nicolas, Alternate

FILED

20 10 AT 10.00AM/PN

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Carlson called the August 8, 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):

Mr. Danila moved to add under New Business A. Report on Solar Energy Project in Waterford close to East Lyme border and the East Lyme Watershed. Seconded by Mr. Christensen. (3-0) Unanimous.

II. MINUTES

A. Minutes of July 11, 2018. Mr. Carlson asked for corrections, additions or deletions to the July 11, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Minutes.

MOTION (2):

Mr. Danila moved to accept the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources July 11, 2018 Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Christensen. (3-0) Unanimous.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Report on Solar Energy Project in Waterford close to East Lyme Border and East Lyme Watershed.

Mr. Danila expressed concerns with the developer who put in the solar project on Grassy Hill and Walnut roads and who now wishes to develop 100 acres off of Oil Mill Road in Waterford. The developer would like to put in 55,000 solar panels. Mr. Danila showed Commission members a map of the area.

Mr. Christensen stated in 2013 they could have used better erosion controls while working on the East Lyme solar project. Later we had snow early and ground froze and then there was much sediment. Mr. Christensen reported the water was brown from the Camp Ground to the Golden Spur. Mr. Christensen felt wetlands should comment on it. The Town of Waterford submitted comments. Mr. Christensen gave photos to Gary Goeschel.

MOTION (3): Mr. Danila moved to recommend that the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources send a letter supporting comments made by the Niantic River Watershed Committee and the Town of Waterford.

Seconded by Mr. Christensen.

(3-0) Unanimous.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Progress in Putting Water Study Report Together. The Water Study Report is almost completed. Mr. Carlson has requested three plots from Mr. Goeschel.
- B. Work on the Goodwin Trail. Mr. Carlson reported four acres of pasture that was overgrown with invasive species of autumn olive and multi-flora rose were removed by grinding. He received a telephone call from an Eagle Scout who wished to know where the privy will be located. Mr. Carlson will locate it shortly.
- C. SustainabilityCT.org Ms. Heller and Ms. Ashburn were not present, and there was no report.

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Communications. Mr. Carlson reported on correspondence received.
- B. Agribusiness Subcommittee. Mr. Christensen reported members of the Agribusiness Subcommittee had a booth during Celebrate East Lyme. Approximately 500 Flyers on Open Farm Day were distributed during Celebrate East Lyme. The Police Commission allowed us to have hay rides. We had 35 people who participated in the hay rides.
 - Thirty- five individuals visited Rickety Picket Garden. Niantic Bay Shellfishing had fifty visitors. The Blackhawk Fishing had 50 visitors.
 - Mr. Christensen reported they hope to have a seminar on how to preserve farms.
- C. Chairman's Report. Mr. Christensen suggested sending a copy of this Commission's letter to DOT to the Aquifer Protection Committee, Sen. Paul Formica and State Rep. Holly Cheeseman.
- D. Ex-Officio Report. Ms. Hardy was not present, and there was no report.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (4): Mr. Danila moved to adjourn the August 8, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 7:40 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Christiansen. (3-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Ghersi, Recording Secretary