

EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2018

Present: Arthur Carlson, Chairman
Laura Ashburn, Commission Member
Penny Heller, Commission Member
Mark Christensen, Commission Member
Don Danila, Commission Member
Harvey Beeman, Alternate

FILED

NOV 20 2018 AT 11:50 AM/PM
(Signature)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: Ron Nichols, Alternate

CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Carlson called the November 14, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION (1): Mr. Danila moved to add to this evening's Agenda, under Old Business, item C. Update to this Commission on Solar Energy Project Development in Waterford. Seconded by Ms. Ashburn. (5-0) Unanimous

I. **PUBLIC DELEGATIONS.** There were no guests.

II. **MINUTES**

A. **Minutes of October 10, 2018.** Mr. Carlson asked for corrections, additions or deletions to the October 10, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Minutes.

The following corrections were noted: On page 2, under item B. after the next to the last sentence add the following sentence: "Ms. Heller will be there representing this Commission."

On page 3, under item D. the fourth paragraph the second sentence to be revised as follows: "They had a consultant from Boston and are looking for input from the community."

MOTION (2): Ms. Ashburn moved to accept the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources October 10, 2018 Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Danila. (5-0) Unanimous.

III. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Follow up with Zoning on Status of Beekeeping Ordinance and Music Ordinance.** Mr. Carlson asked for an update on the status of the beekeeping and music ordinances. Mr. Christensen reported to date Mr. Dinsmore has been unable to meet with Mr. Nickerson to discuss the Beekeeping Ordinance. A \$360 application fee will be needed.

The Music Ordinance is on hold. The Zoning Commission may take their recommendation and form a Subcommittee on this matter.

- B. 2019 Conservation of Natural Resources Meeting Dates. There was a general consensus that the Conservation of Natural Resources 2019 meeting dates will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at East Lyme Town Hall.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Progress in Putting Water Study Report Together. The Water Study Report is almost complete. Mr. Carlson agreed to write a cover letter with the Water Study Report.
- B. Work on the Goodwin Trail. Mr. Carlson is looking for ways to enhance the trail.
- C. SustainabilityCT.org
Ms. Heller reported we need to have approval from the Selectmen.
Ms. Hardy agreed to follow up with Mr. Nickerson about this matter.
- D. Update to this Commission on Solar Energy Project Development in Waterford. Mr. Danila attended a meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council on October 25 regarding the ruling of the Council on the proposed Waterford solar energy project. A number of Council members were concerned about this project. As noted by CT DEEP there was no wildlife survey conducted for this project. Some wanted to see a geotechnical plan on storm water. There was concern that the present owner performed logging throughout the site before the Council made its ruling. Some Council members observed the cutting of smaller trees than had been mentioned by the applicant in its petition. As a result of these reasons, the Council voted to deny the Certificate for a Declaratory Ruling which is needed before they can proceed with this project. On October 26 a letter was made public denying the petition because of a lack of a wildlife survey. The applicant's attorney submitted a request to overturn this ruling. This will be undertaken by the Council on December 6. Save the River-Save the Hills will be submitting comments on this action. Mr. Danila is helping Save the River, Save the Hills in this matter. They also have a very good engineering consultant with a lot of experience. Mr. Danila plans to attend the December Council meeting to reconsider the ruling.

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Communications. Mr. Carlson received a letter from the Town Clerk regarding a schedule of 2019 meetings of this Commission.
- B. Agribusiness Subcommittee. Mr. Christensen reported the Agribusiness Subcommittee is concerned about the Solar Energy Project Development.

Mr. Christensen stated he has spoken to Sen. Formica and State Rep. Cheeseman about the need for spill mitigation at exit 74. Mr. Carlson agreed to contact Ms. Hardy regarding this matter.

MOTION (3): Mr. Christensen moved to send a letter to Sen. Formica and State Rep. Cheeseman regarding the need for spill mitigation at exit 74. Seconded by Mr. Danila. (5-0) Unanimous.

Mr. Christensen reported the Preservation groups will have a Pot Luck Supper in January.

- C. Chairman's Report. Need further study and discussion on the idea of carbon credits on open space.
- D. Ex-Officio Report. Ms. Hardy was unable to be present, and there was no report.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (4): Ms. Heller moved to adjourn the November 14, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Christensen. (5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

