

EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2019

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

Absent: Ron Nichols, Alternate

Also Present: Rose Ann Hardy, Ex officio

**FILED**  
Jan 16 2019 AT 1:30 AM/PM  
Karen Heller  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Carlson called the January 9, 2019 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Regular Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

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

**II. MINUTES**

A. **Minutes of December 12, 2018.** Mr. Carlson asked for corrections, additions or deletions to the December 12, 2018 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources Minutes.

**MOTION (1):** Mr. Christensen moved to accept the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources December 12, 2018 Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Danila. (5-0) Unanimous.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**IV. Follow up with Zoning on Status of Beekeeping Ordinance and Music Ordinance.** Mr. Christensen reported this Commission voted to accept the proposal submitted to the Zoning Commission. Messrs. Christensen and Carlson met with the Zoning Commission, and they seemed favorable towards the proposal.

Mr. Dinsmore met with First Selectman Mark Nickerson and was informed if it was done through a subcommittee the fee would be waived. Mr. Peck was acceptable to it and stated one more member was needed in order to have the fee waived. Mr. Dinsmore decided to submit the fee.

**MOTION (2):** Mr. Christensen moved to submit a letter in favor of Mr. Dinsmore's Application for Beekeeping in East Lyme. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (5-0) Unanimous.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Progress in Putting Water Study Report Together.** The Water Study Report is almost complete.

Ms. Ashburn reported she volunteered to run a workshop at the end of May. Waterford, Montville and East Lyme are part of a grant for storm water retention and pumping septic systems. She would like to showcase the Water Study. Mr. Christensen suggested putting it on the Town calendar.

- B. **Work on the Goodwin Trail.** Mr. Carlson reported the wood chips used on the Goodwin Trail has stopped erosion.

He informed the Commission he observed much enthusiasm on the Goodwin Trail.

He observed the invasive species have been removed from a four-acre field. It looks good and grass seed will be added in the spring.

- C. **SustainabilityCT.org**

Ms. Hardy distributed copies of draft Climate Adaptation and the Sustainability Study by UCONN and information on the Town of Wilton who hosted Sustainability CT.

The Town received a grant to contract UCONN. UCONN made a report to the Board of Selectmen.

The Commission was asked to review this information.

Ms. Heller stated we would like to do it if we have a positive response from the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Hardy suggested that members of this Commission attend the Board of Selectmen meeting when it comes on the Agenda. Ms. Heller, Ms. Ashburn and Mr. Carlson would like to attend.

- D. **Update to this Commission on Solar Energy Project Development in Waterford.** Mr. Danila reported the Siting Council will post on its website the reason for the denial.

Mr. Danila, Save the River, and Save the Hills will keep abreast of the Solar Energy Project Development in Waterford.

## **VI. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. **Communications.** Mr. Christensen met with Mr. Putnam concerning the Bike & Barbeque. It is felt that the COSTCO development on Rt. 161 will not allow it to be held at Brookside Farm. It will be held at White Gate Farm.

Mr. Danila reported a Sea Grant publication "Wracklines" had an article on the Niantic River.

- B. **Agribusiness Subcommittee.** Mr. Christensen reported the Preservation groups will have a Pot Luck Supper on January 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Niantic Community Church with a snow date of January 20 at the same time and place. All are welcome.

On February 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the East Lyme Room of the library Farm Land Preservation and tax benefits will be discussed.

In March or early April, we plan to have a speaker on keeping water clean in the Niantic River and Latimer Brook.

- C. **Chairman's Report.** Mr. Carlson reported he received much data on carbon and the forest's role in carbon sequestration.

Mr. Carlson reported the Water Study Report will be included in the Plan of Conservation and Development. He will set up a meeting with Mr. Goeschel and members of the Planning Commission to discuss the Water Study.

Ms. Heller suggested considering a Masters candidate to work on the GIS mapping.

Mr. Carlson will ask Dick Raymond to sign the Forest Stewardship Plan.

Ms. Ashburn suggested that this Commission have a liaison member on the Planning Commission and Aquifer Protection Commission. Mr. Carlson would like to see chairmen of town commissions and boards meet quarterly to begin to understand town wide issues in order to be able to work together on joint issues.

- D. **Ex-Officio Report.** Ms. Hardy had nothing further to report.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION (3): Ms. Ashburn moved to adjourn the January 9, 2019 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:50 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Heller. (5-0) Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary