



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

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FILED

Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

September 5, 2019, 6 pm

East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1

108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.

Sept 27 2019 AT 1:55 AM/PM
(Signature)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem; David Bliven, Town of Montville; Donald Danila, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Maureen Fitzgerald, Town of Waterford Environmental Planner; Deb Moshier-Dunn, STR-STH (guest).

Excused: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Donald Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission.

Absent: None

1. Call to Order: Chair Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. Seating of Alternates: No alternates were seated.
3. Review and Approval of August 1, 2019 meeting minutes: Don Danila made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Peter Harris. All in favor, the motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Don Danila presented the Treasurer's Report. Peter Harris made a motion to accept the report as presented, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, the motion passes.
5. Coordinator's Report: Judy Rondeau reviewed her activities over the past month. Judy conducted a presentation and tour of stormwater management practices installed in the Niantic River watershed at the National Association of Conservation Districts Northeast Region annual meeting in August. She has been working with Fuss & O'Neill to finalize the NRWPP update workshop invitation letter and locations, and created a digital survey (SurveyMonkey) for participants to complete prior to the workshops. She reported that the East Lyme High School infiltration project was installed in early August.
6. DEEP Liaison Report: Eric Thomas reported that a half-day watershed fair is planned at Goodwin College in East Hartford on September 24th (Judy noted she will be attending the event to represent NRWC and promote the Niantic River watershed). Regarding the recently completed East Lyme High School project, Eric noted it would be good to review other locations in the Flanders commercial area where similar practices could be installed. Eric reported that state bathing beach monitoring (for fecal bacteria) has concluded for the year and that hypoxia monitoring in Long Island Sound is drawing to a close. Eric reported that the federal government has proposed \$20 million to support Long Island Sound programs in the 2020 budget.

7. Old Business:
 - a. Town Matters: Discussion took place regarding the complexities of the marine aquaculture permit and ongoing interest in conducting some type of commercial shellfishing activity in the Niantic River. Deb Moshier-Dunn informed the Board that the owners/developers of the proposed solar facility off Oil Mill Road in Waterford, which was denied without prejudice by the CT Siting Council in 2018, will be preparing a new application. The Board discussed deploying temperature loggers and turbidity meters downstream of the proposed solar facility in Waterford.
8. Subcommittee Updates:
 - a. Monitoring Group: Don Danila will collect the summer wet weather sample at the next suitable rainfall. NRWC will partner with the East Lyme Commission on the Conservation of Natural Resources to conduct RBV sampling on Latimer and Cranberry Meadow Brooks. Maureen Fitzgerald noted there was little suitable riffle habitat on Stony Brook in Waterford, but Oil Mill Brook had several suitable locations. Judy noted we had collected RBV samples in Oil Mill Brook in the past.
 - b. Education/Outreach Group: Activities were reviewed in the coordinator's report. The Board discussed preparing an outreach piece for publication regarding potential environmental impacts of the proposed solar facility.
 - c. NRWPP Update Steering Committee: The Board discussed locations for the two watershed workshops and provided feedback on the online survey. Members discussed methods to disseminate the workshop notices.
9. New Business: None
10. Public Comments: Maureen Fitzgerald noted that several locations in Waterford have incorporated stormwater infiltrators into site development designs, and that these improvements appear to be prompted by requirements of the current Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.
11. Next Meeting: October 3, 2019, 6 PM, East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave. Niantic, CT. The Monitoring Subcommittee will meet at 5 pm prior to the Board of Directors meeting.
12. Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at 7:39 PM by Don Danila, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator