



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

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Minutes
NRWC Board of Directors
January 9, 2020, 6 pm
East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1
108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.

Jan 30 2020 AT 3:39 AM (PM)
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EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem; David Bliven, Town of Montville; Donald Danila, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Donald Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator.

Excused: John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; David Turner, Town of Montville.

Absent: None

1. Call to Order: Chair C. Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.
2. Seating of Alternates: A motion was made by D. Landers to seat R. Bates for the vacant Salem seat, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, the motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of December 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes: D. Landers made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, the motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: D. Danila reviewed the Treasurer's Report. D. Landers made a motion to accept the report as presented, seconded by R. Bates. All in favor, the motion passes.
5. Coordinator's Report: Judy attended a meeting on Dec. 16th at the US Coast Guard Academy with Waterford and East Lyme planning staff to discuss the Coastal Resiliency project in more detail. The YSI meter was ordered mid-December; it arrived shortly after. Work on the watershed plan update is proceeding on schedule. Several grants are open at present, including Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund, EPOC and the CWA §319 grant programs. Judy would like to identify a project for the upcoming CWA §319 grant RFP based on fieldwork being conducted by Fuss & O'Neill. Judy continues to work with the New London High School UConn CAP student and coordinate with WELSCO to develop and schedule her project.
6. DEEP Liaison Report: E. Thomas provided an update of DEEP activities for the Committee. Eric reported that the 2019 Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition grant program recipients have been announced. New England Forestry Foundation and the Avalonia Land Conservancy were awarded funding to purchase open space land in the Niantic River watershed. Eric reported that the draft construction stormwater general permit, which includes a section on solar installation construction, will be posted for review shortly. Also, towns subject to the 2016 MS-4 permit must post their draft annual

reports for review by Feb. 15th. Finally, Eric reported that the Latimer Brook stream gauge may be reactivated to support upcoming DEEP programs. He will follow-up and report back to the Committee.

7. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: R. Bates stated that he would attend the East Lyme Conservationist potluck on behalf of NRWC. Judy reviewed director appointment term dates and will contact the towns of directors who are due for renewal. P. Harris reported that there would be a Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing on Monday, Jan. 13th regarding Marker 7 LLC. D. Lawson reported about a presentation called the True Cost of Wind by Ryan M. Yonk.
- b. Director and Officers Insurance Discussion: Directors reported regarding communications with their respective CEOs whether they are covered by municipal D&O insurance.
- c. Review and Rank Top Five Concerns and Actions from the NRWPP Update Workshops: Judy reviewed the top five concerns and actions as identified by Board members. She will forward the list to Fuss & O'Neill for inclusion in the watershed plan update.

8. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. Monitoring Group: With the new YSI meter in hand, D. Danila will schedule the winter quarter water quality sampling.
- b. Education/Outreach Group: Activities were reviewed in the Coordinator's Report.
- c. NRWPP Update Steering Committee: Activities were reviewed in the Coordinator's Report.

9. New Business:

- a. Annual Audit: R. Bates will gather materials from the treasurer in March and distribute them to the Audit Committee for review and preparation of the annual audit report.
- b. ECCD Project Support Reimbursement: D. Danila made a motion to approve reimbursement to ECCD for project support services for the 4th quarter of 2019 (October-December), seconded by D. Landers. All in favor, the motion passes.
- c. NRWPP Update Open Space Workshop: Subsequent to discussion at the December 2019 NRWC meeting, Judy reviewed the watershed plan update budget to determine if funds were available to support an open space workshop. Judy was able to identify adequate funding. D. Landers made a motion to authorize the watershed coordinator to organize an open space workshop as part of the Niantic River Watershed Protection Plan update, seconded by M. Bezanson. All in favor, the motion passes.

10. Public Comments: None

11. Next Meeting: January 9, 2020, 6 PM, East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave. Niantic, CT.

12. Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at 7:13 PM by M. Bezanson, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator