



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.*

[www.nianticriverwatershed.org](http://www.nianticriverwatershed.org)

## Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

September 3, 2020, 6 pm

Via Zoom Video Conferencing

FILED

Sept 25 20 20 AT 8:45 AM/PM  
*(Signature)*

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Donald Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission; Chris Tomichек, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Susan Gonzalez, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Deb Moshier-Dunn (Niantic Resident).

Excused: David Bliven, Town of Montville; Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem; Donald Danila, Town of East Lyme; Eric Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission.

1. Call to Order by Chris Tomichек at 6:00 PM.
2. Seating of Alternates: Don Landers moved, second by Pete Harris, to seat Ralph Bates for Salem. All in favor. Passed.
3. Review and Approval of August 6, 2020 meeting minutes: Motion to approve the minutes, as amended with a spelling correction for Susan Gonzalez's name, by Don Landers, seconded by Ralph Bates. All in favor. Passed.
4. Treasurer's Report: No treasurers report this month.
5. Coordinator's Report: Judy Rondeau had emailed the coordinators report, dated September 3, 2020, for members' prior review, and she summarized report for all attendees. She emphasized that the FY20 319 proposal for stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) at East Lyme High School was not approved by DEEP. The plan is to re-submit that proposal next year. Judy also pointed out that the funding for her basic coordinators services has been expended, and thus she will need to be careful to limit any non-grant-funded activities.
6. DEEP Liaison Report: Eric Thomas commented regarding the East Lyme High School stormwater project funding discussion, that DEEP had focused instead on supporting (a) projects for larger areas; and (2) jump-starting other projects. In addition, Eric pointed out that DEEP is on track to announce the next round of CT grants.
7. Old Business:
  - a. Town Matters:
    - (1) The Watershed Update Plan Compact page is being circulated to obtain the town leaders signatures. Chris Tomichек and Ralph Bates are working to obtain the Waterford and East Lyme signatures, and then get the document to Melissa Bezanson, for the Salem signature.

(2) Peter Harris reported that East Lyme is updating its 10-year Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), and he asked for any guidance the NRWC could suggest that he share in addition to the Shellfish Commission input. It was noted that the plan is a reference or guidance document, and that perhaps a group meeting of various groups representatives would be fruitful and provide new means for shellfishing development.

8. Subcommittee Updates:
  - a. Monitoring Group: No report this month.
  - b. Education/Outreach Group: Per the coordinators report, the NRWC Facebook page is updated frequently to post relevant information regarding healthy lawn care practices, plus Save The Sound posts, and the Long Island Sound Study posts.
  - c. NRWPP Update Steering Committee: The focus is on obtaining town leaders signatures on the Compact page, as noted above under "Town Matters". Also, the final invoice for the DEEP funding has been submitted and payment has been received. A small balance remains in the Community Foundation of Eastern CT budget for printing the Plan and for conducting the Watershed Summit.
9. New Business:
  - a. Approval of ECCD Final NRWPP Update invoice: A motion to approve reimbursement to ECCD for coordinator services for preparation of the final reports for the DEEP NRWPP update contract in the amount of \$3,500 was made by Dave Turner, and seconded by Peter Harris. All approved. The motion passed.
10. Public Comments: Deb Moshier-Dunn, Niantic Resident, shared the information that the Niantic River Pump-Out Program is out of money. This is due in part to the fact that both partner Towns of Waterford and East Lyme, were expecting the Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission (WELSCO) to be able to provide the needed funding of \$7,000.00, and thus did not offer any funds. Peter Harris (WELSCO rep), commented that at the next WELSCO meeting, scheduled for September 17, 2020, he will request the funding.
11. Next meeting: October 1, 2020, 6 PM via Zoom Online Conferencing
12. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn at 6:39 pm was made by Don Landers, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Bates  
Alternate, Town of East Lyme, acting note-taker.