

**East Lyme Inland Wetlands Agency  
January 4th, 2021  
Special Meeting Minutes**

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**Members Present:**

**Kristen Chantrell, Vice Chair**

**Phyllis Berger, Secretary**

**Dave Schmitt**

**Gary Upton, Chair**

**Jason Deeble**

**Don Phimister**

**Doreen Rhein**

**Marjorie Meekoff, Alternate**

FILED

*Jan 11, 20 21 AT 8:28 AM/PM*  
*Brooke Steiner ATE*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**Also Present:**

**Gary Goeschel, Planning Director/Inland Wetlands Agent**

**Jennifer Lindo, Zoom Moderator**

**Paul Dagle, Ex-Officio**

**Absent:**

**Sandy Gignac**

**The Special Meeting of the East Lyme Inland Wetlands Agency was held on Monday, January 4th, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom; this teleconference was recorded in its entirety and in accordance with the requirements of executive order 7B, issued by Governor Lamont, which allows for public meetings to be held over teleconference.**

**I. Roll Call and Call to Order**

Chairman Upton called the Special Meeting of the Inland Wetlands Agency to order at 7:04 p.m. and took roll call.

## **II. 2021 Meeting Schedule**

The Agency discussed the 2021 proposed meeting schedules

### **MOTION (1)**

**Mr. Upton moved to approve the 2021 Inland Wetlands meeting schedule which has them meeting the first Monday of the month, and includes the following dates:**

- 1. January 4th, 2021**
- 2. February 8th, 2021**
- 3. March 8th, 2021**
- 4. April 12th, 2021**
- 5. May 10th, 2021**
- 6. June 14th, 2021**
- 7. July 12th, 2021**
- 8. August 9th, 2021**
- 9. September 13th, 2021**
- 10. October 18th, 2021**
- 11. November 8th, 2021**
- 12. December 13th, 2021**

**Ms. Chantrell seconded the motion.**

Mr. Upton noted the site walks will continue to occur on the Saturday preceding the Inland Wetlands meetings.

Mr. Dagle clarified that tonight is a special meeting and not part of their regular schedule and Ms. Lindo explained the date was merely left on the schedule and is of no consequence but can certainly be omitted.

**Motion carried, 7-0-0.**

## **III. Election of Officers (Alternate voted for agency elections)**

### **1. Chair**

Mr. Dagle as Ex-Officio ran the Commission elections for 2021 and called for nominations for Inland Wetlands Chair.

### **MOTION (2)**

**Mr. Phimister moved to nominate Dave Schmitt as Inland Wetlands Chair.**

**Ms. Rhein seconded the nomination.**

### **MOTION (3)**

**Ms. Berger nominated Gary Upton as Inland Wetlands Chair.**

**Ms. Chantrell seconded the nomination.**

**Vote:**

**Mr. Dagle asked that all members in favor of Dave Schmitt as Chair raise their hands;**

**Yay- Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Phimister.**

**Mr. Dagle asked that all members in favor of Gary Upton as Chair raise their hands;**

**Yay- Ms. Chantrell, Ms. Berger, Mr. Debble, Mr. Upton, and Ms. Rhein.**

**Mr. Dagle noted Mr. Upton will continue as Chair.**

Mr. Upton said he doesn't disagree with Mr. Phimister and that Mr. Schmitt would make an excellent Chair.

## **2. Vice Chair**

Mr. Upton called for nominations for Inland Wetlands Vice Chair.

### **MOTION (4)**

**Ms. Berger nominated Kristen Chantrell as Inland Wetlands Vice Chair.**

**Mr. Upton seconded the nomination.**

Mr. Upton called for further nominations and there were none.

**Vote:**

**Motion carried, 7-0-0.**

Mr. Upton said Ms. Chantrell's assistance is invaluable.

## **3. Secretary**

Mr. Upton called for nominations for Inland Wetlands Secretary.

### **MOTION (4)**

**Mr. Deeble moved to nominate Ms. Berger as Inland Wetlands Secretary.**

**Mr. Upton seconded the nomination.**

Mr. Upton called for further nominations and there were none.

**Vote:**

**Motion carried, 7-0-0.**

**IV. Schedule Special Meeting for continuation of Public Hearing for Application of Harvest Christian Fellowship of Niantic, for the construction of a Church; Construction of an 8,450 square foot church building, a 72-car paved parking lot, and associated improvements on a 21.7± acre parcel located at North Bride Brook Road, East Lyme**

**Assessor's Map 24.0, Lot 7. Limited clearing, grading and replanting of previously cultivated areas are proposed within a portion of the 100' upland review area. There will be no proposed activity within any wetlands area.**

Mr. Upton asked Mr. Goeschel to schedule this item for February 8th, 2021 and suggested that the item be at the top of the agenda so the applicant and public don't have to wait longer than necessary to be heard.

**MOTION (5)**

**Mr. Schmitt moved to add the continuation of the Public Hearing for the Application of Harvest Christian Fellowship of Niantic, to the top of the February 8th, 2021 as the first item on the meeting agenda.**

**Mr. Upton seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried, 7-0-0.**

Ms. Berger observed that several meetings during the year were cancelled last minute and asked that effort be made not to do the same this year.

Ms. Rhein asked about limiting the length of the meetings.

Ms. Chantrell asked about receiving hard copies of the agenda and supporting documentation and Ms. Berger, Mr. Deeble, and Ms. Meekhoff said they would also like to receive hard copies as well.

Ms. Lindo explained the difficulty of producing hard copies due to the devotion of time needed to make them, the impracticality of mailing them due to the postal service being slow because of covid, and the Town Hall being closed to the public.

Mr. Upton said he would be happy to collect the hard copies since he lives next door to the Town Hall, and that he will distribute them; Mr. Deeble suggested that the material could be distributed during their site walks when they have them.

Mr. Dagle noted that with Mr. Deeble's appointment as a regular member they're now down one alternate, which he will discuss with the other Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Deeble said he put forth Dr. McIntire's name and explained that he is a PHD and Environmental Scientist and that his information has been forwarded to the Board of Selectmen.

**MOTION (6)**

**Ms. Chantrell moved to adjourn the January 4th, 2021 Special Inland Wetlands Agency Meeting at 7:27 p.m.**

**Mr. Upton seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried, 7-0-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brooke Stevens, Substitute Recording Secretary