



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

www.nianticriverwatershed.org

FILED

Minutes
NRWC Board of Directors
February 4, 2021, 6 pm
Via Zoom Video Conferencing

March 2 20 21 AT 12:15 AM/PM
(Curran)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem; Donald Danila, Town of East Lyme; Donald Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Susan Gonzalez, Town of East Lyme; David Turner, Town of Montville; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Eric Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Deb Moshier-Dunn; Cate Hewitt; Maureen Fitzgerald, Waterford Environmental Planner.

Excused: Eric Thomas, CT DEEP

1. **Call to Order:** Chair C. Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.
2. **Seating of Alternates:** D. Landers moved to sit R. Bates for Salem vacancy, seconded by D. Turner; all in favor, motion passed. D. Danila moved to seat R. Kanter for Montville vacancy, seconded by D. Landers; all in favor, motion passed.
3. **Review and Approval of January 7, 2021 meeting minutes:** Motion to approve by D. Landers, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, motion passed.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** D. Danila reviewed the Treasurer's Report. D. Landers motioned to approve Treasurer's Report as submitted, seconded by R. Bates; all in favor, motion passed. D. Danila requested \$50.00 to pay the annual filing fee to the CT Secretary of State and to purchase folders for record storage – unanimously approved.
5. **Coordinator's Report:** J. Rondeau reviewed the Coordinator's Report.
6. **DEEP Liaison Report:** E. Thomas was not in attendance but provided an email update for Judy to share related to the CWA §319 Grant application status.
7. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Town Matters:** Discussed responsible lawn care initiative / advertisement in *The Day* newspaper and the associated costs / funding opportunities.
 - b. **Review and approval of the 2021 -2022 Work Plan:** D. Landers moved to approve the work plan, seconded by R. Kanter; all in favor, motion passed.
8. **Subcommittee Updates:**
 - a. **Monitoring Group:** D. Danila provided an update regarding precipitation monitoring events. Discussion related to Niantic River outfall sampling program and future funding opportunities.

- b. Education/Outreach Group: No activities due to COVID-19; members reviewed the 2021 NRWC newsletter.
- c. NRWPP Update Summit Committee: Update is complete, summit on hold.
- d. Audit Committee: The Committee met in January to review financial materials. R. Bates reviewed the Committee's report. D. Turner moved to approve the report as presented, seconded by P. Harris; all in favor, motion passed.

9. New Business:

- a. Proposed CT National Estuarine Research Reserve: Niantic Bay and Niantic River will be part of this proposed NERR. J. Rondeau and D. Danila attended the kick-off meeting. Refer to link in agenda for more information.
- b. 2020 NFWF LISFF Proposal/Discussion: Discussed under Item 8a Monitoring Committee update.

10. Public Comments:

- Deb Moshier-Dunn requested a letter of support from NRWC for Waterford High School teacher Michael O'Connor for a student project related to sea level rise.
- Deb Moshier-Dunn issued an invitation for a NRWC liaison to the Waterford Land Trust.
- Update from Deb Moshier-Dunn and Maureen Fitzgerald related to the Waterford Solar Project status and schedule.
- "Earth Day Everyday" festival to be held September 25th, 2021 at McCooks Park.

11. Next Meeting: March 4, 2021, 6 PM, via Zoom.

12. Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at 7:10 PM by P. Harris, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Melissa Bezanson
NRWC Secretary, Town of Salem Representative