

FILED IN EAST LYME
Apr 11, 2008 AT *2:45* P M

**EAST LYME ZONING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, APRIL 10th, 2008
MINUTES**

S. Blais, ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

The East Lyme Zoning Commission held a Special Meeting on April 10, 2008 at Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave., Niantic, CT.

PRESENT: Mark Nickerson, Chairman, Rosanna Carabelas, Secretary, Marc Salerno, Ed Gada, Norm Peck, Steve Carpenteri

ALSO PRESENT: William Dwyer, Alternate
Rose Ann Hardy, Ex-Officio, Board of Selectmen

ABSENT: Bob Bulmer, Alternate

Chairman Nickerson called this Special Meeting of the East Lyme Zoning Commission to order at 6:04 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was observed.

Public Delegations

Mr. Nickerson called for delegations noting that no applications or items coming before them could be discussed.

There were none.

Appointment of Alternate Member to Fill Vacancy left by John Birmingham

Mr. Nickerson asked if anyone had received any information from people interested in serving in this capacity on this Commission.

Ms. Carabelas said that she received an email from a gentleman named Alvin Sher whom she did not get the chance to speak with and who did not forward a resume; indicating that he has been a resident of the Town for 30 years, is a democrat but not on the Democratic Town Committee and is interested in serving the Town. He has taught urban and land use classes in a college environment and finds this of great interest to him.

Mr. Nickerson asked his address.

Ms. Carabelas said that she did not know as she was not able to speak with him.

Mr. Peck asked if they had any other information about him.

Ms. Carabelas said that he has his Masters in Fine Arts and that he has a nine (9) year old son and unfortunately could not attend the meeting this evening as there is a concert at the school that he has to attend for his child.

Mr. Nickerson asked if there were any other candidates.

Mr. Salerno said that he received an application from the Chair of the Republican Town Committee regarding Gregory Massad of 27 Webster Rd. who is also present here this evening to speak with them.

Mr. Nickerson asked Mr. Massad to give them some background information.

Gregory Massad, 27 Webster St. said that he is an attorney with a private practice in New London and feels that he would be a good asset to the Commission as he has background experience in government, law and real estate. He served two terms on the New London City Council and one term as Mayor. He said that he has owned and developed several properties over the years and that he moved here in 1993 and he is familiar with the aspects of the Town. He said that he is self-employed and with respect to the zoning issues, he owns property in Waterford and had to go through their land use commissions and knows what it is like to

also be an applicant – he has sat on both sides of the table. He noted that he knows Alvin Sher as he lives near a summer property that he owns in Saunders Point and that he is a very nice man and very talented.

Ms. Carabelas asked if he sees any of his properties in Town coming before this Commission and if this would present a conflict of interest for him.

Mr. Massad said no – he owns property in Waterford that he was seeking to develop. He added that his summer property is an older beach home that pre-dates zoning.

Mr. Carpenteri asked if he has represented people legally in zoning issues and if that might be a problem.

Mr. Massad said that he has only represented himself and that he practices in Rhode Island and not here and that he does not see it as a conflict.

Mr. Nickerson thanked Mr. Massad for coming forward. He then asked if there was anyone else that wished to come forward.

Ms. Carabelas said that she did put forth Pam Byrnes name last week and that she has to withdraw it as Ms. Byrnes has indicated to her that she is not interested in serving as an alternate as she has been traveling a lot lately for her job.

Mr. Nickerson called for nominations to fill the vacancy of John Birmingham for Zoning Commission Alternate.

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. Salerno moved to nominate Gregory Massad of 27 Webster Road to fill the position of Zoning Commission Alternate.

Mr. Peck seconded the motion.

****MOTION (2)**

Ms. Carabelas moved to nominate Alvin Sher to fill the position of Zoning Commission Alternate.

Mr. Gada seconded the motion.

Mr. Nickerson called three times for any other nominations –

Hearing none –

He called for a motion to close nominations.

****MOTION (3)**

Ms. Carabelas moved that nominations for the Zoning Commission Alternate position be closed.

Mr. Salerno seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Nickerson called for a vote on **MOTION (2)** – all those in favor of Alvin Sher to fill the Zoning Commission alternate position.

Votes for Alvin Sher: Ms. Carabelas and Mr. Gada.

Mr. Nickerson called for a vote on **MOTION (1)** – all those in favor of Gregory Massad to fill the Zoning Commission alternate position.

Votes for Gregory Massad: Mr. Peck, Mr. Carpenteri, Mr. Salerno and Mr. Nickerson

The Commission congratulated Mr. Massad and welcomed him.

Adjournment

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. Salerno moved to adjourn this Special Meeting of the East Lyme Zoning Commission at 6:20 PM.

Ms. Carabelas seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary

April 6, 2008

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the East Lyme Republican Town Committee, it is with great pleasure that I nominate Gregory Massad for the position of Zoning Commission Alternate. He will bring extensive professional experience and expertise to the commission and will be an excellent addition to the board.

Mr. Massad is an attorney in private practice and presently the managing partner of Messier & Massad, LLC with offices in New London and Westerly. The recipient of a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Bryant University and a Juris Doctor degree from Quinnipiac University School of Law, he has also received training in mediation and conflict resolution.

His record of public service is exemplary. He served four years on the New London City Council from 1987-1991 and served one term as Mayor from 1989-1990. He also served on the Town of East Lyme Board of Assessment Appeals in 1995. He is presently a hearing officer for parking ticket appeals for the City of New London and volunteers his services to the Volunteer Lawyer Program for the State of Rhode Island.

He has been an active civic volunteer. He has coached and managed several youth soccer and softball teams in East Lyme over the past several years and, during the summer months, has organized movies in the park as a member of the Oswegatchie Hills Club. He also helped coordinate and co-sponsor a fourth grade Spelling Bee at Flanders School in conjunction with The Lyme Tymes,

He resides in the Flanders section of town, in addition to owning summer property in Saunders Point, making him familiar with local issues. His background in law, business, real estate, and government will serve the Commission and the Town well.

With his outstanding qualifications and experience, Gregory Massad will make an exemplary alternate to the Zoning Commission. I ask for your support for Mr. Massad and thank you for your serious consideration of this candidate.

Sincerely yours,
Holly H. Cheeseman
Chair, ELRTC

Attachment 4/10/08 Zoning Spec. Mtg.