



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

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FILED

Sept 2 20 22 AT 8:15 M/PM
Brian Thomas
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

April 7, 2022, 6 pm

Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Attendees: Jamie Vaudrey, NRWC Coordinator; Dan Mullins, Eastern CT Conservation District; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Susan Gonzalez, Town of East Lyme; Dave Turner, Town of Montville; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Eric Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Amy Cabaniss (guest); Maureen Fitzgerald (guest)

Excused: Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Karen Bishop, Town of Waterford; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Melissa Bezanson, Town of Montville

- 1. Call to Order:** D. Landers called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM
- 2. Seating of Alternates:** D. Danila motioned to sit E. Kanter for C. Tomichek, seconded by P. Harris. All in favor, motion passed.
- 3. Review and Approval of March 3, 2022, meeting minutes:** P. Harris motioned to approve March meeting minutes, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, motion passed.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** D. Danila presented Treasurer's report. He noted that Bluehost issued a coupon to cover the website hosting renewal fee, so there will not be an expenditure for that service. There haven't been any applicants for water quality monitoring supplies funded through the EPOC grant, but a request is expected to come in from East Lyme High School. P. Harris motioned to approve Treasurer's report, seconded by E. Kanter. All in favor, motion passed.
- 5. Coordinator's Report:** J. Vaudrey reviewed the coordinator's report. NRWC is registered for Celebrate East Lyme Day on July 16, more details to follow for coordinating volunteers. Discussion followed about potential NRWC participation in Earthfest CT 2022 on June 11, and outreach material/activities that would be appropriate for the event. J. Vaudrey will get estimates for printing additional outreach material for these and future activities. Additionally, J. Vaudrey will review the proposal for development of the watershed report card and put together a plan to move it along. The Education and Outreach subcommittee has been fairly inactive and there is interest in reengaging the group to help plan and prepare for outreach activities.
- 6. DEEP Liaison Report:** E. Thomas reported that the biennial water quality statewide assessment is currently in draft format. DEEP Fisheries Division interested in conducting summer fish sampling in Latimer Brook and other tributaries possibly in conjunction with sampling performed by water monitoring staff.



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7. Old Business:

a. Town Matters

- i. Welcome to new NRWC member Amy Cabaniss who will join as East Lyme alternate once approved by the Board of Selectmen. Montville and Salem seats still need to be filled.
- ii. D. Danila received an email from Suzanne Thompson regarding a boat shrink-wrap recycling initiative by Clean Ocean Access and if NRWC and STR-STH would be interested in getting involved. Maybe involvement could include encouraging marinas to recycle the material.
- iii. Plaque presentation for Ralph Bates scheduled for 5 PM on April 20 with April 21 as rain date.
- iv. P. Harris reported that the responsible lawn care article was printed in The Day as a letter to the editor and was therefore free of charge. He will also pursue getting it published in the free periodicals offered by the towns (Post Road Review, Lyme Times, etc.).

8. Subcommittee Updates:

a. Monitoring Group: D. Danila summarized updates from the April 7 Monitoring Group meeting.

b. Education/Outreach Group:

- i. D. Mullins gave update on work in support of Section 319 grant which included Smart Sponge filter installations in Waterford neighborhood along No Name Brook, planning for tree filter installations in Waterford and East Lyme, and more rain garden assessments. E. Thomas noted that there was a lot of community engagement during this project.
- ii. J. Vaudrey received an email from Colleen Bezanson (Asst. Planner and GIS specialist, Town of Montville) regarding watershed education opportunities. D. Mullins could supply water quality test kits from ECCD. D. Danila will ask Penny Heller about Sustainable CT watershed education and report back to the NRWC. E. Thomas suggested a possible contact from Sustainable CT or contacting the Montville Conservation Commission.

c. NRWPP Update Summit Committee: No updates, but planning should begin soon.

9. **New Business**: D. Danila suggested committee members update contact information and term expiration dates. J. Vaudrey will confirm information with individuals.

10. **Public Comments**: A. Cabaniss looks forward to contributing to the next meeting.

11. **Next meeting**: May 5, 2022, 6 PM, venue TBD

12. **Adjournment**: D. Danila motioned to adjourn at 7:09 PM, seconded by D. Turner. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Gonzalez".

Susan Gonzalez
Town of East Lyme Representative

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