



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

<https://www.nianticriverwatershed.org>

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2023 FEB -1 A 9:13

Cassie Hill
TOWN CLERK

Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

November 3, 2022, 6 pm

Via ZOOM Online Conferencing

Attendees: Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem, Jamie Vaudrey, NRWC Coordinator; Amy Cabaniss, Town of East Lyme (alternate); Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Susan Gonzalez, Town of East Lyme; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Dave Turner, Town of Montville; Eric Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission (alternate)

Excused: Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission

- 1. Call to Order:** C. Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
- 2. Seating of Alternates:** D. Landers motioned to seat A. Cabaniss for the Town of Salem, second by D. Danila. All in favor, motion was approved. D. Landers motioned to seat R. Kanter for the Town of Montville, second by D. Danila. All in favor, motion was approved.
- 3. Review and Approval of September 2022 meeting minutes:** D. Danila motioned to approve meeting minutes, seconded by A. Cabaniss, all in favor, motion was approved.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** D. Danila reviewed the Treasurer's report. D. Danila motioned to pay \$2,585.21 to Eastern CT Conservation District from LIS Futures Grant, final disbursement related to healthy lawns campaign -second by D. Landers. D. Landers motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by R. Kanter. All in favor, motion was approved.
- 5. Coordinator's Report:** J. Vaudrey reviewed the coordinator's report.
As part of the Coordinator's report there was a detailed review of the draft Watershed Report Card that Jamie has prepared, which summarizes potential data sources to be reviewed and considered (public data, other historical reports done by NRWC, Millstone, and others). Discussed in detail two key data sources which included:
 - Local Watershed Assessment tool by Clear, Unified Water Study (use their rubric for water quality) –
 - Sound Health Explorer that we should utilize to develop "grade" for the NRW. target summer 2023 for publication / distribution (earthfest or EL Day).Monitoring Group and Education Committee to review tasks / timelines. Jamie encouraged the NRWC to also consider paid contributors to facilitate report card development/execution (nominal fee of ~\$200). D. Landers commented that the draft report card seems to be missings focus on shellfish/ fish / biology components, e.g. "Will we be able to continue shell fishing in Niantic River for another 10-20 years?". The group discussed the concept for a potential add on consideration for subsequent grant application; an interactive story map on website that gets updated annually.
- 6. DEEP Liaison Report:** E. Thomas sent report by e-mail. C. Tomichek reported the highlights.



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7. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: Discussed agenda item 7a relating to Waterford Jordan Cove watershed impact from the possible sale and subsequent development of a 169-acre parcel of land at 125 Waterford Parkway North, proximal to Walmart.

8. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. Monitoring Group: D. Danila reported that RBV sampling would not be done this fall due to dry conditions. Discussed USGS gauge decommissioning at Latimer Brook.
- b. Education/Outreach Group: See Coordinator's Report.
- c. NRWPP Update Summit Committee: Discussed reconvening to discuss potential summit in 2023.

9. New Business: NRW Report Card, refer to summary in Coordinator's Report.

Public Comments: Jamie shared comments provided by Deb Mosier-Dunn related to Oil Mill Road development – public hearing happened. Design complies with BMPs / requirements.

10. Next meeting: December 1, 2022, 6 PM, via Zoom.

11. Adjournment: D. Landers motioned to adjourn at 7:17 PM, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Bezanson
Town of Salem