

Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

https://www.nianticriverwatershed.org/

Minutes
NRWC Board of Directors
February 2, 2023, 6 pm
Via ZOOM Online Conferencing

Attendees: Melissa Bezanson, Town of Salem, Jamie Vaudrey, NRWC Coordinator; 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; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Amy Cabaniss, Town of East Lyme (alternate); Dave Turner, Town of Montville; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP

Excused: Eric Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission (alternate)

Guest: Maureen Fitzgerald, Town of Waterford Environmental Planner; Deb Moshier-Dunn, STR-STH

- 1. Call to Order: C. Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.
- 2. **Seating of Alternates**: D. Danila motioned to seat A. Cabaniss in vacant Waterford seat, seconded by D. Landers, all in favor, motion approved.
- 3. **Review and Approval of January 2023 meeting minutes**: D. Landers motioned to approve meeting minutes as edited by D. Danila, seconded by D. Danila, all in favor, motion was approved.
- 4. Treasurer's Report: D. Danila reviewed the Treasurer's report. D. Landers motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by D. Turner. All in favor, motion was approved. D. Danila inquired about the status of the audit committee. D. Landers volunteered to chair the audit committee.
- 5. **Coordinator's Report**: J. Vaudrey reviewed the coordinator's report. Jamie asked if the NRWC will do an annual report for 2022, and the response was yes. Jamie to start culling information and solicit members as appropriate.
- 6. **DEEP Liaison Report**: Eric reviewed grant opportunities and encouraged the group to partner with regional open space planning organizations.

7. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: Discussed Pine Grove, Niantic sewer extension project study.
- b. Workplan Update: Melissa presented revised workplan format. Melissa and Amy to consolidate redundant tasks and upload to Google Drive (to be created by J. Vaudrey)

8. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. <u>Monitoring Group</u>: D. Danila reported that he is still working on the draft monitoring report and is looking for reviewers. J. Vaudrey, D. Landers, S. Gonzalez, and C. Tomichek volunteered.
- <u>Education/Outreach Group:</u> See Coordinator's Report. Discussed revitalization of fertilizer campaign. P. Harris to draft letter to the editor and circulate for review. E. Thomas indicated that the towns of E. Lyme and Waterford should be eager to support



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to help fulfill certification requirements

(https://sustainablect.org/fileadmin/Random PDF Files/Archived Certified Towns/202 2/East Lyme - Bronze - Fall 2022.pdf and https://www.waterfordct.org/waterfordsustainable-ct-0)

- c. NRWPP Update Summit Committee: Members needed.
- 9. **New Business:** Executive Board Elections: C. Tomichek nominated Susan Gonzalez for V. President (unopposed), Chris Tomichek to continue as president (unopposed), Don Danila to continue as Treasurer (unopposed), Melissa Bezanson to continue as secretary (unopposed), and D. Landers to continue supporting the NRWC as an advisory member. D. Landers motioned to elect officers as proposed, seconded by P. Harris, all in favor, motion passed.

Membership recruiting: C. Tomichek drafted letter to the 4 Towns seeking nominations for membership. The Board reviewed and approved letter, J. Vaudrey to mail.

Public Comments: D. Turner noted that EPOC grant application is due April 15. In order to apply for grant, a reporting of activities completed with funds needs to be submitted to EPOC. J. Vaudrey indicated that she had sent in an interim report last year, she will confirm.

- 10. Next meeting: February 2, 6 PM, via Zoom.
- 11. **Adjournment**: D. Landers motioned to adjourn at 7:15 PM, seconded by D. Danila. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Bezanson Town of Salem