



Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Mar 19, 2026
East Lyme Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Members present: Peter Harris, Larry Tytla, Patrick Kelly, Marcia Benvenuti, and Paul Spakowski.

Members absent: Rick Kanter, Tom Bowlen, Fred Wise

Guests: Warden Dave Simpson

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
Mar 23 2026 AT 8:10 AM/PM
Walter Hill
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and a quorum was established.
- 2) Secretary's minutes from Jan 15, 2026 regular meeting was approved on a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, motion vote 4-0, Ms. Benvenuti abstained. Feb 19, 2026 meeting was cancelled.
- 3) Treasurer's report was presented by Mr. Kelly and approved on a motion by Mr. Tytla, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, motion vote 5-0.
- 4) Warden's comments : Mr. Harris reported he has met with the new wardens and is coordinating training with DA/BA. Mr. Tytla made a motion, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti to allocate up to \$1000 for boat and engine maintenance expenses as well as safety equipment for the new wardens. Motion approved 5-0.
- 5) Old business :
 - a. DA/BA e-mailed Mr. Harris about a replacement rain gauge with the hopes of installing the gauge in the next few months.
- 6) New business :
 - a. Dock application for 216 Niantic River Rd, Waterford, Dave Provencher from Shore Design PLLC described the project. Motion made by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Kelly that this project will not adversely impact shellfish. Motion vote was 2-2 (Mr. Kelly and Ms. Benvenuti voted to approve the motion, Mr. Harris and Mr. Spakowski voted against the motion, Mr. Tytla abstained). The motion was not approved.
 - b. Dock application for 28 Niantic River Rd, Waterford, Dave Provencher from Shore Design PLLC described the project. Motion made by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti that this project will adversely impact shellfish. Motion vote was 5-0 The motion was approved.
 - c. Mr. Harris announced an invitation for WELSCO to participate in this year's Earthfest to be held at McCook Point Park in Niantic on 16 May 2026. Commission members will discuss further at next month's meeting.
- 7) Ex-officio comments : East Lyme ex-officio Cindy Collins was not able to attend due to a schedule conflict.
- 8) Correspondence : Mr. Harris discussed during the meeting, various correspondence he rec'd related to the rain gauge (agenda item 5a), training of wardens by DA/BA (agenda item 4), and the invitation to Earthfest (agenda item 6c). Correspondence to Mr. Harris by Shore Design PLLC was discussed at the meeting for agenda items 6a and 6b.

9) Public comment : No public comments were made..

10) Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm on a motion from Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla, motion approved 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Harris