

6:32 P.M. Wednesday, March 18, 2015
East Lyme High School
Cafeteria Commons
30 Chesterfield Road
East Lyme, Connecticut 06333

Meeting Minutes

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Members Present: Mark Christensen, Steve Dinsmore, Nancy Kalal, Tom Kalal, Melissa Miko, Barbara Turner, Clyde Turner.

Delegations: None.

Approval of Minutes: 5-0-0.

Budget: Waiting for confirmation of grant-awarded money. Possible to request small amount from Conservation Commission, if needed.

Connecticut Department of Agriculture Viability Grant: Jamie Smith from CT DOAG left message, package to come, possibly awarded \$7,100-\$7,600 for project.

Open Farm Day Planning: Sunday, July 19, 2015. Farmer Bill agreed to be a host. Search continues for two other venues. Possibly Sam Smith house, popular last year.

4-H Update: Educational presentation at Sustainability-Apalooza 2015 on chickens. 500 attendees. Tilapia aquaponics equipment overwintered, to be built.

East Lyme Middle School Garden: Student garden plans complete. Award-winning design to be determined.

Harbor Management Report: T. Londregan to seed shellfish beds in June 2015. **Memorial Day Parade**: Monday, May 25, 2015. Possible goat float planning, bee theme, tractors.

Bride Brook Tree Nursery: 103 trees, 50% died over winter. Need guidance on care and irrigation of remaining trees. Mark available to go on-site.

Honeybee Education: Resident told incorrectly that she was not allowed to keep bees. Need for representation and education. Tom and Steve to research and address.

East Lyme Agriculture in Photography: B. DeSantos took more photos, more scheduled. Favorites to be chosen and provided for town website and print.

State-wide Issues: Steve Dinsmore attended CT Ag Day, got a photo and autograph from the 2015 Honey Queen. Governor and St. Senator Formica attended. CT New Farmer Alliance resource available, Miko joined as a member. Proposal to ban all pesticides on CT State-owned land. Contraindications include Rentschler Field, benzenes emitted from AstroTurf, and UCONN's fields where pesticides are tested.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

Respectfully submitted, Melissa M. Miko