

East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources
Regular Meeting of August 8, 2012

Present: Arthur Carlson
Penny Heller
Tom Kalal
Mark Christiansen
Marvin Schutt

FILED IN EAST LYME
August 13 2012 AT 9:30 AM

Brooke D. Stevens ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Chairman Carlson called the August 8, 2012 East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources to order at 7:02.

I. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA.

MOTION: Tom Kalal moved to add Discussion of the Samuel Smith House under Old Business, item C. Seconded by Mark Christiansen. (5-0) Unanimous.

II. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS. There were no public delegations.

III. MINUTES.

A. Minutes of July 11, 2012. Mr. Carlson asked for additions, corrections or deletions to the July 11, 2012 Minutes.

The following corrections were noted: On page 1, under Old Business, item i., the first and second sentence should be revised as follows: "Mr. Schutt reported that he and Mr. Carlson had marked the southern end of a trail in the Nehantic State Forest from Grassy Hill Road, south to the Yale boundary." "Trees were wrapped with tape which will be replaced with permanent blazes." The fourth sentence to be revised as follows: "Ms. Heller also reported that Mr. Carlson talked with Yale University officials regarding the legal agreement allowing access to the Yale Outdoor Recreation area for trail use."

MOTION: Mr. Christiansen moved to accept the July 11, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Schutt. (5-0) Unanimous.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Leasing Public Lands for Farming. Mr. Carlson read email dated August 7, 2012 in which Jennifer McTiernan informed him Kip Kolesinkas will be taking over Farmland ConneCTions. Mr. Carlson suggested that the Agri-Business subcommittee hold a meeting at the Community Center regarding leasing of public lands for farming.

B. Comments on Results of East Lyme Day. Ms. Heller felt East Lyme Day had a good turn out.

There was a great display of eelgrass, a beehive, Hefer International and a 4H Club. Eight individuals signed up to help.

Mr. Christiansen stated 850 brochures were handed out on Open Farm Day. There were 130 visitors to Foster's Farm; 200 visitors to the 5C horse farm and approximately 200 to Scott's Farm.

Alicia Geer found it necessary to resign from the Agri-Business Subcommittee. Barbara Turner and Steve Dinsmore were appointed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Nature of East Lyme Programs

i. Foot Paths (Niantic Forest Update) Mr. Carlson reported he met with Tom Midalgski and left him the Yale package which included: 1) A map of the area of Yale; 2) Lease for Nehantic State Forest and Darrow Pond, and 3) Trail Request Form.

Mr. Carlson met with Pat Young of the Eight Mile Wild Scenic Watershed Committee and reviewed a map of Holmes Road to Hartmark Park. He had discussions with Dave Putnam. Mr. Carlson felt a citizens group will need to be formed to maintain it. Mr. Carlson suggested a Charter for the Walking Group, which could be an arm for Parks and Recreation and Conservation of Natural Resources.

ii. Forest Management. Mr. Carlson reported Dick Raymond will complete the Forest Planning Report for Darrow's Pond.

iii. Water Quality Town Wide. Penny Heller, Ron Nichols, Art Carlson and Laura Ashburn discussed working on rapid assessment in four different stages. We would like to have it completed in September.

Mr. Kalal reported Judy Rando of the Niantic River Watershed Committee would like to discuss manure management with this Commission.

Last week he met with Don Landers and discussed Latimer Brook and Cranberry Meadow.

B. Open Space Plan Updates. Mr. Goeschel informed Mr. Carlson that he will make open space updates, upgrade the maps and correct any errors to the Open Space Plan.

C. Samuel Smith House. Mr. Schutt reported on the progress and efforts being made to provide the information required to answer all the questions given by the Board of

Selectmen, members of the Board of Finance and the general public regarding the purchase of the Samuel Smith House and property.

VI. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff/Communications. Mr. Goeschel was unable to be present, and there was no report.

B. Chairman's Report. Mr. Carlson informed the Commission the Board of Finance verbally declined our request for \$2 million for an Open Space budget.

C. Ex-Officio. Ms. Hardy was unable to be present, and there was no report.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Heller moved to adjourn the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources of August 8, 2012 at 8:45 p.m.
Seconded by Mr. Kalal. (5-0) Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary