

**East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, July 9, 2014**

Present: Arthur Carlson, Chairman  
Mark Christiansen, Member  
Penny Heller, Member  
Tom Kalal, Member  
Laura Ashburn, Alternate (seated)

Absent: Marvin Schutt, Member  
Ron Nichols, Alternate

Also Present: Rose Ann Hardy, Ex-Officio

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
July 9, 2014 AT 3:30 AM/PM  
*Allen Galbo*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**Call to Order**

Chairman Carlson called the July 9, 2014 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources to order at 7:01 p.m. Laura Ashburn was seated.

**I. Additions to the Agenda – none.**

**II. Public Delegations – none.**

**III. Minutes**

**A. Minutes of April 9, 2014**

Tom Kalal joined the meeting.

Minutes of the April 9, 2014 were approved at the May 14, 2014 meeting.

**B. Minutes of May 14, 2014**

The minutes of April 9, 2014 were approved at the May 14, 2014 meeting.

**MOTION (1): Motion made by Penny Heller, seconded by Laura Ashburn, to accept the May 14, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources as presented. Voice vote, 4-0, All in favor. Motion passed.**

**IV. New Business – none.**

**V. Old Business**

**A. Continuation of Water Study Results to date**

Chairman Carlson reported on Ron Nichol's conversation with Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer, Water Department, regarding what is being done to test, protect, and ensure of the quality of the Town's drinking water supply. Following Ms. Ashburn and Ms. Heller's

discussion with Bill Mulholland to discuss aquifer protection, the Commission will enter into further discussions.

Mark Christiansen joined the meeting.

Ms. Heller reported on a presentation she attended with Ex-officio Rose Ann Hardy by Adam Winchell of the Nature Conservancy. Mr. Winchell discussed the necessity of obtaining and/or setting aside open space in an effort to save the drowning of the saltwater marshes from the rising sea level. Due to the large percentage of salvageable salt marshes in the Town, the Nature Conservancy created an analysis of the possibility of directing the marshes landward. In response to her suggestion of adding this to the Commission's criteria, Chairman Carlson stated that it can be added to their Open Space Plan. Ms. Hardy added that their services are offered free of charge and suggested that the Commission sponsor an Open Forum.

## VI. Reports and Communications

### A. Communications — None.

### B. Agribusiness Subcommittee

Mr. Christiansen reported that *Celebrate East Lyme* is scheduled for Saturday, July 19. Two booths for Conservation and Agriculture are planned. Unfortunately, they will not be allowed to have sheep at either of their booths at the proposed location. Chickens and honeybees provided by Mr. Kalal. Handouts will be available. Three farms will be taking part: Five C's Horsefarm, the McTurk's Mini-Donkey Farm, and the Samuel Smith Farmstead. Four beehives have been set up and oxen will be featured at the Farmstead. In addition, entertainment and refreshments will be offered, parking will be available across the street, and the bathroom in the house will be available. Mr. Christiansen requested funding for the printing of signage to be posted at key areas in Town inviting visitors to the farms.

**MOTION (2): Motion made by Laura Ashburn, seconded by Penny Heller, to allocate \$100.00 to cover the printing costs for 1,000 promotional flyers. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor. Motion passed.**

At the Request of Ms. Heller, Chairman Carlson will speak with Gary Goeschel regarding obtaining a map of the public hiking trails that can be posted for East Lyme Day. Ms. Heller's daughter will be creating a self-running slideshow depicting some of the hiking areas. Two tents, one provided by the Commission and the other by Mr. Christiansen, along with a table, provided by Ms. Heller, will be available to house the laptop for optimal viewing.

With regards to the hiking trails, Chairman Carlson has requested to institute a cutting schedule for the walking trails in an effort to keep the trails maintained, control the ticks, and eliminate and/or control invasive species, e.g., Japanese switchgrass.

### C. Chairman's Report

Chairman Carlson reported on the progress at the Samuel Smith House. Fully funded, the Community Garden, comprised of 36 beds measuring 4' x 12' each and two 4' deer fences placed 5' apart is being planned. The Rotary Club has requested 75% of the beds to grow produce for the local Food Banks, e.g., Care and Share. The well has been repaired making water available to the area. A wood shed behind which a tool shed will be made available as well as a bathroom.

Approximately \$1,430.00 worth of materials were sold from the exterior of the Tinker House. In addition, beams, floorboard, and paneling have been salvaged and lintels and granite will also be set aside. He will be engaging in discussions with the Historical Society regarding the insurance coverage they have in an effort to protect the historical houses in the Town. In addition, they will be taking photographs and measurements of the structures should something happen and the buildings need to be re-built. Chairman Carlson spoke of the good relationship with the State's Historical Trust Office and an archaeological survey, completely funded by the State, will be conducted of the property. The prisoners have been diligently working with them. While Mr. Christiansen noted that this would make a good story for the paper.

Ms. Heller noted that she has obtained information regarding the solar composting toilets which the State is utilizes and will forward the information to Chairman Carlson.

### D. Ex-Officio Report

Ex-Officio Hardy encouraged the Commissioners to attend the Zoning Commission's Special Meeting on Thursday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m., during which Costco will be presenting their plans. While the public will not have an opportunity to speak at the Special Meeting, they will be able to gather the necessary information to which they may respond via other avenues. Included in their plans is a parking lot for 1,760 parking spaces located atop the aquifer. Also of concern is the location of the entrance(s)/exit(s) of the proposed parking lot.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion (3): Motion made by Mr. Christiansen, seconded by Ms. Ashburn, to adjourn the July 9, 2014 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:31 p.m. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Acting Recording Secretary for the Town of East Lyme

