



# Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Minutes  
NRWC Board of Directors  
January 3, 2013  
914 Hartford Tpk – 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr, Waterford, CT

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
July 10, 2014 AT 2:15 AM/PM  
Kathryn Yalton, CCL  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; Marvin Schutt, Town of East Lyme; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator, Steve Harney, Guest.

Excused: Jeff Crouch, Town of Montville; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission.

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Dave Turner made a motion to seat alternates Don Danila and Peter Harris, seconded by Marvin Schutt. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Discussion – Woodmen’s Land Trust, Inc. Conservation Easement: Steve Harney was present to discuss the Woodmen’s Land Trust Gurley Brook Preserve. Woodsmen’s Land Trust was recently awarded \$500,000 from CT DEEP’s Open Space Land Acquisition Program for 170 acres of land located just north of the Route 1, I-95 & I-395 intersection, and within the 2,000 foot Route 11 Greenway. Steve thanked the Board for the letter of support NRWC provided in 2012 supporting the acquisition.
4. Review and Approval of December 6, 2012 Meeting Minutes: John Jasper noted that in item 7c. (Education/Outreach Group update), the minutes inaccurately reflected his report regarding participation of East Lyme High School students in the water quality monitoring program. Participation was hampered not by lack of interest but because teachers were not able to fit our water quality program into their current curriculum. Don Landers made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, the motion passes.
4. Treasurer’s Report: No treasurer’s report was presented for review, due to illness of the ECCD office administrator.

5. Coordinator's Report: Judy reviewed her activities for the previous month. Subsequent to discussion at last month's meeting Judy reviewed and distributed the most current version of the NRWC By-Laws. Judy and several Board members attended a Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring meeting sponsored by CT Sea Grant and Long Island Sound Study (LISS). Following up on water quality sampling results in the Cranberry Meadow Brook watershed, Judy has been coordinating with the Town of East Lyme to conduct a manure management workshop with livestock owners and land-use commissioners this winter. Judy also updated the Board on several ECCD grant projects in the Niantic River watershed.
6. Old Business:
  - a. Saunders Point Sewer letter: The letter prepared by Rick Kanter in support of future sewerage of Saunders Point has been submitted to the Town of East Lyme.
  - b. Town Appeals: Don Landers reported that he checked with East Lyme First Selectman Paul Formica regarding the status of the FEMA grant application. Paul had no news to report. Eric Thomas noted that the FEMA website had a notice saying that due to the extremely large number of applications received, the award announcement had been delayed.
  - c. Audit Committee: Don Landers reported that he is waiting for a year-end statement from ECCD.
  - d. Landmark Development Corp. Application: Marvin Schutt reported that the East Lyme Sewer & Water Commission refused the requested sewer allocation for the proposed Landmark development at Oswegatchie Hills.
7. Subcommittee Updates
  - a. 501c3: Dave Turner stated that there is no progress to report on this item. The next step is to file the application for the Articles of Incorporation. Judy said she would try to do that.
  - b. Monitoring Group: Don Danila updated the Board on the water quality monitoring and RBV sampling on Latimer Brook. Don and John Jasper took measurements at a few extra stations behind St. Matthias Church and the campground to collect additional data for John's flux calculations.
  - c. Education/Outreach Group: Marvin asked Judy how the manure management grant came about, and how ECCD would go about recruiting horse owners to participate. John Jasper mentioned that he has simplified his mixing model and is just looking at water temperature. Eric Thomas stated that CT DEEP has hired a new volunteer monitoring coordinator and also that DEEP has several temperature loggers that may be available for loan.
  - d. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: This subcommittee will be meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>, after the Monitoring subcommittee meeting.
8. New Business: Don Landers reported that this season has been the best scalloping season in the river in recent years. Doug Lawson reported that the oyster yield at the

mouth of the river by the Niantic Bridge has been very good this year. There was brief discussion about the listed shellfish impairment, and whether inadequate sampling due to staffing shortages at the CT department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture may be compounding the problem. Marvin asked how impairments are determined. Eric briefly described how CT DEEP evaluates surface waters.

9. Next meeting: February 7, 2013, 6 pm, at 914 Hartford Turnpike, Waterford, CT. \*

10. Adjourn: Marvin Schutt made a motion to adjourn at 7:34 PM, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Rondeau".

Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator