



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee*

[www.nianticriverwatershed.org](http://www.nianticriverwatershed.org)

## Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

April 4, 2013

East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1

108 Pennsylvania Avenue, East Lyme, CT.

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
July 10, 2014 AT 2:15 AM PM  
Calvin Mathis, Jr.  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; Marvin Schutt, Town of East Lyme; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Chris Tomichuk, Town of Waterford; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator.

Excused: Jeff Crouch, Town of Montville; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management; David Turner, Town of Montville.

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichuk called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Rick Kanter made a motion to seat East Lyme alternate Don Danila, seconded by Doug Lawson. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of February 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes: It was noted that under New Business, agenda item 9b, "Proposed Solar Field, Grassy Hill and Walnut Hill Roads, East Lyme," no figures had been given for proposed acres of clearing and the name of the location. The amount of proposed clearing was 35 acres and the location was Pigeon Hill. Don Danila made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Marvin Schutt. All in favor, the motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dave Turner was not present, so Coordinator Judy Rondeau reviewed the budget. Marvin Schutt made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, report is accepted.
5. Coordinator's Report: Judy reviewed her activities for the previous month. Judy reported that our application to Dominion Foundation was approved. We did not receive the full amount we requested, but were awarded adequate funds to go forward with most of our proposed programs. Judy attended the Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group meeting on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, where she updated the group on NRWC activities and the status of the Colony Road tree filter project. The manure management workshop to the East Lyme Conservation Commission and Agriculture Committee has been postponed. ECCD and sister conservation district Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District will



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be holding an Equine Manure Management in Killingworth May 4<sup>th</sup> and East Lyme horse owners have been invited. A flow gauge has been installed at Latimer Brook in Montville, just upstream of our water quality sampling site, for a stream flow project ECCD is conducting with USGS and CT DEEP. This gauge can be used to approximate nitrate loading at the upper limit of our sampling area. ECCD will be partnering with the towns of East Lyme and Waterford to install tree filters later this year in downtown Niantic and on Mago Point in Waterford. Judy participated in an ERT review of the Darrow Pond (East Lyme) property in March.

## 6. Old Business:

- a. Town Appeals: FEMA has not yet announced grant awards.
- b. Audit Committee: Judy distributed the requested materials to the audit committee.
- c. Landmark Development Corp. Application: The East Lyme Planning & Zoning Committee Superior Court appeal was settled.

## 7. Subcommittee Updates

- a. 501c3: With the approval of the Dominion Foundation grant application, we can move forward with our 501c3 application.
- b. Monitoring Group: Don Danila updated the Board on the water quality monitoring on Latimer Brook. Don added a new station at Egret Road, which is located between Colony Road and RT 1, to try to narrow down the noted increase in nitrate between those two sites.
- c. Education/Outreach Group: It was suggested that we pursue some form of community outreach regarding nitrate levels in the Grassy Hill Road area, possibly through the Day or other outlet. Judy noted that the next task on the Colony Road tree filter project is the development of educational signage.
- d. Grant Review/Fundraising Committee: It was previously reported that the Dominion Foundation grant application was approved. Eric commented that the Long Island Sound Futures Fund (LISFF) grant round was in swing, and NRWC should think about possible projects for next year's grant round. Judy stated she has been in touch with a teacher at Tyl Middle School in Montville who would like to do a rain garden project, and she is looking for funding for that project.

## 8. New Business:

- a. Work Plan Review: Board members reviewed the 2012 NRWC Work Plan. The goals were re-prioritized, based on work that has been completed. Judy will update the Plan and distribute it for member review.



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- b. Salem Riparian Corridor Protection: Ruth Savalle informed members that the Town of Salem is considering extending riparian corridor protection from streams in the Eight Mile River watershed to all rivers and streams in town. Rick Kanter suggested someone from NRWC should meet with the Salem Planning & Zoning Commission to explain how the lower reaches are affected by activities in the upper watershed. Rick further stated that many people from Montville and Salem purchase permits to shellfish in the Niantic River. Ruth also said that the recently vacated Town Planner position is temporarily being covered by Rich Serra of SECCOG. Doug Lawson stated that Jordan Cove is subject to major water quality problems, and wondered if NRWC could do anything to assist with water quality improvements.
  - c. NRWC Publicity: Marvin suggested that that we should publicize accomplishments we have made in the last few years. For instance, we could pick the top two projects we have completed and publicize them. Judy suggested we could submit regular articles for The Patch.
9. Next meeting: May 2, 2013, 6 pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall.
  10. Adjourn: Marvin Schutt made a motion to adjourn at 7:51 PM, seconded by Rick Kanter. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator