



Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Minutes
NRWC Board of Directors
April 5, 2012, 6:00pm
914 Hartford Tpk – 2nd Flr, Waterford, CT

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
July 10 2014 AT 2:15 AM (PM)
Helen Palmieri
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Elbert Burr, Town of Salem; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; Marvin Schutt, Town of East Lyme; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator.

Excused: Jeff Crouch, Town of Montville; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP.

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Chris Tomichek made a motion to seat East Lyme alternate Don Danila for Don Landers, seconded by Dave Turner. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of March 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes: Don Danila pointed out a misspelling of Don Lander's name and also that all the letters in DEEP should be capitalized. Marvin Schutt commented that as a point of procedure, after a motion is made and seconded, discussion may take place. Marvin also stated that East Lyme First Selectman Paul Formica has agreed to allow the Committee to use the East Lyme Town Hall as its official address. Elbert Burr thanked Ruth Savalle for taking the March meeting minutes in the absence of the watershed coordinator. Elbert Burr made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Marvin Schutt. All in favor, motion passes.
4. Budget Review: Treasurer Dave Turner reviewed the budget. Don Danila requested reimbursement for materials he has purchased for the water quality monitoring program. Discussion regarding reimbursement was deferred to later in the agenda.
5. Coordinator Report: Judy reviewed her activities for the previous month. She has prepared handbooks for the new Board members. She reported that the water quality monitoring equipment we applied for in the 2012 EPA Equipment Loan Program round has arrived. Planning for the Clark Pond Demonstration Riparian Buffer project is coming along nicely. The NRWC website has been renewed for another year, and has been updated to reflect recent activities. Judy wrote a support



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letter on behalf of NRWC for Jamie Vaudrey, a researcher at UConn/Avery Point for a grant application to the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Long Island Sound Futures Fund grant program. Jamie is proposing to conduct a review of research data from the Niantic River similar to the data review NRWC had proposed in 2010; but on a greater scale.

6. Old Business:

a. Review/update Plan of Work: Chris Tomichuk compiled the results of the Directors' rankings of the Plan of Work goals. There was brief discussion about additional goals. Marvin Schutt asked if sewerage of Saunders Point was still included in the Plan of Work (it is). Marvin quickly outlined the outcome of a discussion he and John Jasper had with town officials regarding Saunders Point sewers. The Town (of East Lyme) needs to conduct a feasibility study before it can proceed further, and to date, funds have not been available to conduct that study. Marvin and John Jasper agreed to draft a letter indicating NRWC support of the project and will bring it to the Board for review and discussion. John Jasper shared the material he presented to the Town officials at the sewer meeting. Dave Turner made a motion to accept the rankings for the 2012 Plan of Work, seconded by Don Danila. The motion passed unanimously. Judy will update the Plan of Work and distribute to Directors.

b. Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- NFWF/LISFF: Judy suggested that NRWC might want to consider an oyster seeding project for the 2013 NFWF/LISFF grant round. Recent research indicates that oysters have been successfully used to reduce nutrients in other estuaries. Doug Lawson stated oysters do well in many parts of the Niantic River.
- Rivers Alliance Watershed Assistance Small Grant Program: Judy suggested applying for funds for educational brochures.

7. Subcommittee Updates

- a. 501c3: Dave Turner updated Directors on the status of the 501c3 application. The subcommittee has been working on the Articles of Incorporation, which are the first step in applying for non-profit status. Once a draft of the Articles is completed, it will be submitted to Attorney Branse for his review and comments.
- b. Monitoring Group: Judy reported that the equipment we had been waiting for (YSI meter cable and sensors) has arrived. Don Danila reported that the Environmental Lab at Dominion has agreed to assist with the set up and calibration of the new equipment. There was brief discussion regarding where the collected data would be permanently stored, and how it will be used. These will be topics for a future the Monitoring subcommittee meeting.



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- c. Education/Outreach Group: Marvin reported that he has been contacting members of the inactive outreach group to assess their willingness to become involved. Marvin has also been in communication with Judy Benson of *The Day* newspaper to get some publicity. Judy has expressed interest in attending a future stream monitoring.
8. New Business:
- a. Reimbursement: Dave Turner proposed the development of a request form that would be submitted for reimbursement. Until such time as NRWC finances are transferred to a NRWC account, all requests will go to ECCD for reimbursement.
 - b. Public Statements: Directors were urged to be conscientious when issuing statements to news media on behalf of the organization.
 - c. Pot Luck Social: Marvin Schutt suggested a pot luck supper this coming summer to allow Directors and spouses to socialize in an informal setting. Dave Turner suggested tying the supper to a river outing.
9. Next meeting: June 7, 2012, 6 PM, 914 Hartford Tpk – 2nd Flr, Waterford, CT.
10. Adjourn: Marvin Schutt made a motion to adjourn at 7:43 PM, seconded by Don Danila. Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator