



# Niantic River Watershed Committee

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

## Minutes

**NRWC Board of Directors**

**October 2, 2014**

**East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1**

**108 Pennsylvania Avenue, East Lyme, CT.**

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
Oct 30 2014 AT 2:20 AM PM  
*Allen Palm, Jr.*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: 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 Tomichuk, Town of Waterford; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Ralph Bates, Niantic resident, Dan Mullins, Waterford resident.

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

Absent: Jeff Crouch, Town of Montville; Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville.

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichuk called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: A motion was made by Marvin Schutt to seat Don Danila for Marc Lafrance, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of August 7 and September 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes: Marvin Schutt made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: The review of the treasurer's report was tabled pending the arrival of the treasurer.
5. Coordinator's Report: A teacher from Waterford High School has reserved the Water Quality Loan kit for Oct. 7th. Judy will be accompanying the class to Jordan Brook in Waterford. The Last Green Valley Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring program held River Bioassessment (RBV) workshops in September. Several Niantic watershed residents attended. Judy is in the process of matching RBV sites to volunteers. Judy conducted a Streamwalk Workshop in September, and will be scheduling streamwalks over the next month. There are no grant applications currently under development at this time. The Mago Point redevelopment project, of which ECCD tree filter installation will be a part, is targeted for spring 2015. The downtown Niantic redevelopment

project, which will also include ECCD tree filter installations, has been postponed until spring 2015. The following topics were discussed following the Coordinator's report. Regarding RBV, since the Town of Waterford has retained a professional firm to conduct stream habitat assessments, it would be beneficial to share our RBV data and see how the two datasets compare. Dennis Goderre, Waterford Town Planner, is planning to submit an application to the CT Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Viability Grant Program, to assess the viability of commercial shellfisheries in Waterford. Rick Kanter commented that commercial shellfishing is not allowed in the Niantic River. Jamie Vaudrey of UConn-Avery Point has offered the use of Onset Hobo O2 data loggers for deployment in the Niantic River, should the Committee want to use them.

Upon arrival of the treasurer, the financial reports for August and September were reviewed. Don Danila made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented, seconded by Doug Lawson. All in favor, the motion is approved.

Dave Turner made a motion to reimburse Don Danila \$168.39 for the purchase of nitrogen reducing reagents, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, motion passes.

6. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: There were no updates regarding town matters.
- b. Watershed Signs: Approval for the installation of signs on state roads appears to have stalled out along the chain of command at DOT. John will contact Marybeth Hart of DEEP to see if she can report any progress

7. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. 501c3: Dave Turner has been in contact with Welles Gilmartin to move the application process along. There are two forms associated with the 501c3 application to be filled out. The application fee will be \$800.
- b. Monitoring Group: Don Danila reviewed the September water quality sampling results. He noted that with the lack of rain, the streams are really low. He also reported that he will be going out the following week to conduct RBV in Latimer Brook.
- c. Education/Outreach Group: John Jasper reported that he has been in contact with a colleague at Yale University regarding the potential for a student to conduct some water quality data review and synthesis.
- d. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: Reviewed in the Coordinator's

8. New Business:

- a. ECCD Coordinator Services Reimbursement: Dave Turner made a motion to reimburse the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District \$2250 quarterly payment for the last quarter for coordinator services, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, motion passes.
- b. Public Comments: Board members thanked Ralph Bates for his interest in the Watershed Committee. It was suggested that a new agenda item "Public

Comments" be added to subsequent agendas to allow members of the public the opportunity to address the Committee.

- c. Board Member Term Expirations: With the end of the calendar year coming up, Judy will check term expiration dates, and notify directors whose terms will be ending in December.

9. Next meeting: December 4, 2014, at 6 pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.

10. Adjourn: Don Danila made a motion to adjourn at 6:47 PM, seconded by Marvin Schutt. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator