



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

www.nianticriverwatershed.org

Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors

May 7, 2015, 6 PM

East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1

108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT.

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
MAY 9 2015 AT 11:40 AM/PM
Kathleen Walters, Clerk
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Ralph Bates, Town of East Lyme; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem; David Turner, Town of Montville; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Tom Bowen, Oakdale resident; Maureen Fitzgerald, Town of Waterford; Aaron Pauley, Niantic resident; Fran Violante, Waterford resident.

Excused: Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission.

Absent: Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville.

1. Call to Order: Vice-Chairperson Don Landers called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
2. Seating of Alternates: Dave Turner made a motion to seat Ralph Bates for Chris Tomichek, seconded by Rick Kanter. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Review and Approval of April 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes: Rick Kanter made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Dave Turner made a motion to discuss agenda item 8 a. *ECCD Coordinator Services Reimbursement* prior to reviewing the financial statement, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes. Dave Turner made a motion to reimburse ECCD in the amount of \$2250 for coordinator services for the period of January to March 2015, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes. Don Danila reviewed the financial report. Dave Turner made a motion to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Rick Kanter. All in favor, motion passes. Don reported that he has met with Dave to transition treasurer materials and review procedures.
5. Coordinator's Report: Judy has continued to update and add content to the NRWC website. She will be participating in the East Lyme Stormwater Classroom event at the Hole in the wall on May 12th. She has registered for Celebrate East Lyme Day, which will be held on July 18th. Judy was contacted by a teacher from the Dual Language and Arts

Magnet Middle School in Waterford, and shared information regarding the Teacher Water Quality Loan Kit with him. Judy and Don retrieved the temperature loggers from Latimer Brook. Data will be downloaded and sent to John Jasper for review and analysis. Judy submitted a grant application to CT DEEP for funding through the CWA §319 program to install a stormwater infiltration practice in a parking lot at the East Lyme High School. Judy was also notified that we have been awarded funding from Dominion Foundation. The Niantic Streetscape project began on March 31st and four tree filters have been installed along Rt. 161 as part of that project. The Mago Point redevelopment project is projected to start in spring 2016. Up to six tree filters will be installed as part of that project.

6. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: Doug Lawson reported that Waterford Town Planner Dennis Goderre has resigned to take a new position. Directors discussed composing letters to the watershed towns to request financial support for watershed programs. Letters should include a list of accomplishments so towns know what types of activities they are supporting. Judy will send a draft of an older letter to the four NRWC officers and Dave Turner for revision. Maureen Fitzgerald reported that funding for NRWC has been included in the proposed Waterford budget.
- b. Watershed Signs: Judy will follow up with an alternate contact at CT DOT to discuss what is necessary to move this project forward.
- c. Plan of Work Update: Directors reviewed the proposed Plan of Work. Dave Turner made a motion to approve the Plan with amendments as necessary, seconded by Rick Kanter. All in favor, motion passes.
- d. Latimer Brook Stream Gauge Funding: Don Landers reported that the line item in the East Lyme budget for funding this stream gauge has been eliminated. Discussion ensued including identifying alternative funding sources and alternative and less expensive gauging systems. Tom Bowen suggested contacting the New London Water and Water Pollution Control Authority.

7. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. 501c3: We are awaiting notification from the IRS that our application has been approved. Dave Turner and Don Danila will follow-up.
- b. Monitoring Group: Don Danila sent this month's results out via email for review. Don reported that the pH probe is still not working properly. Dave Turner offered to help Don troubleshoot. The Monitoring Subcommittee met prior to the Board meeting. Discussion included whether to continue to sample monthly or at a reduced schedule. Don would like to conduct more wet weather sampling to see the effects of storm runoff on water quality results. Don will connect with Craig Tobias of UConn to do an isotopic nitrogen analysis. This analysis can be used to isolate nitrogen sources (such as septic systems, fertilizer, animals). Don also reported that RBV results from last fall have been published and Latimer Brook ranked fairly high.
- c. Education/Outreach Group: Reviewed in the Coordinator's Report.

- d. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: Reviewed in the Coordinator's Report.
8. New Business:
- a. ECCD Coordinator Services Reimbursement: Discussed in Item 4.
 - b. Coordinator Funding: Judy had reported in the Coordinator's Report that we have received funding through Dominion Foundation for 2015. However, the funding we were awarded was half of what was requested. Judy asked for clarification on whether that funding is to be used specifically for the proposed implementation project (two rain gardens) or split between implementation and programmatic support. Don Landers clarified that the funding can be used however the Board wishes.
 - c. Celebrate East Lyme Day (July 18th): Don Landers confirmed that MEL will provide critters and tanks again this year. Fran Violante and Ruth Savalle will assist with displays and the booth. Judy stated that whoever else would like to participate is very welcome.
 - d. East Lyme Harbor Management Planning Document: Don Landers stated this document is being updated and would like NRWC to provide a review.
 - e. Oswegatchie Hills Development Letter: Don Danila drafted a letter to the East Lyme Zoning Commission regarding the Landmark Development Group LLC application for a zone change and preliminary site plan approval concerning potential impacts of the proposed development to the Niantic River. Don Landers made a motion to approve the letter as drafted, seconded by Ruth Savalle. Following discussion, the motion was amended to include revisions as discussed. All in favor, motion passes.
9. Public Comments: None.
10. Next meeting: June 4, 2015, at 6 pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.
11. Adjourn: Dave Turner made a motion to adjourn at 7:22 PM, seconded by Ruth Savalle. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator

